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Greetings
from sunny Victoria
american

Panhandling and tourism: clashing on the streets of Victoria

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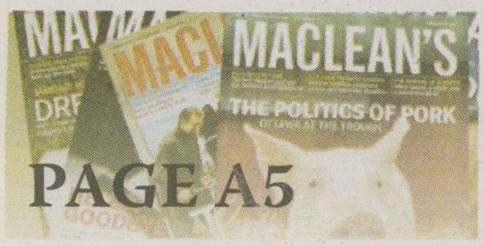
PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY STEVEN MASUCH AND LINLEY FAULKNER

NEWS

Universities boycott rankings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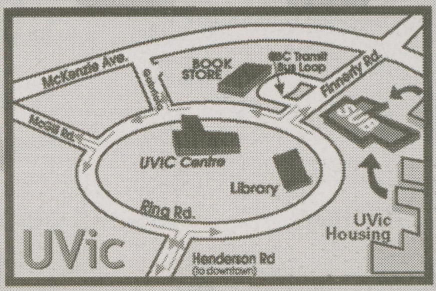
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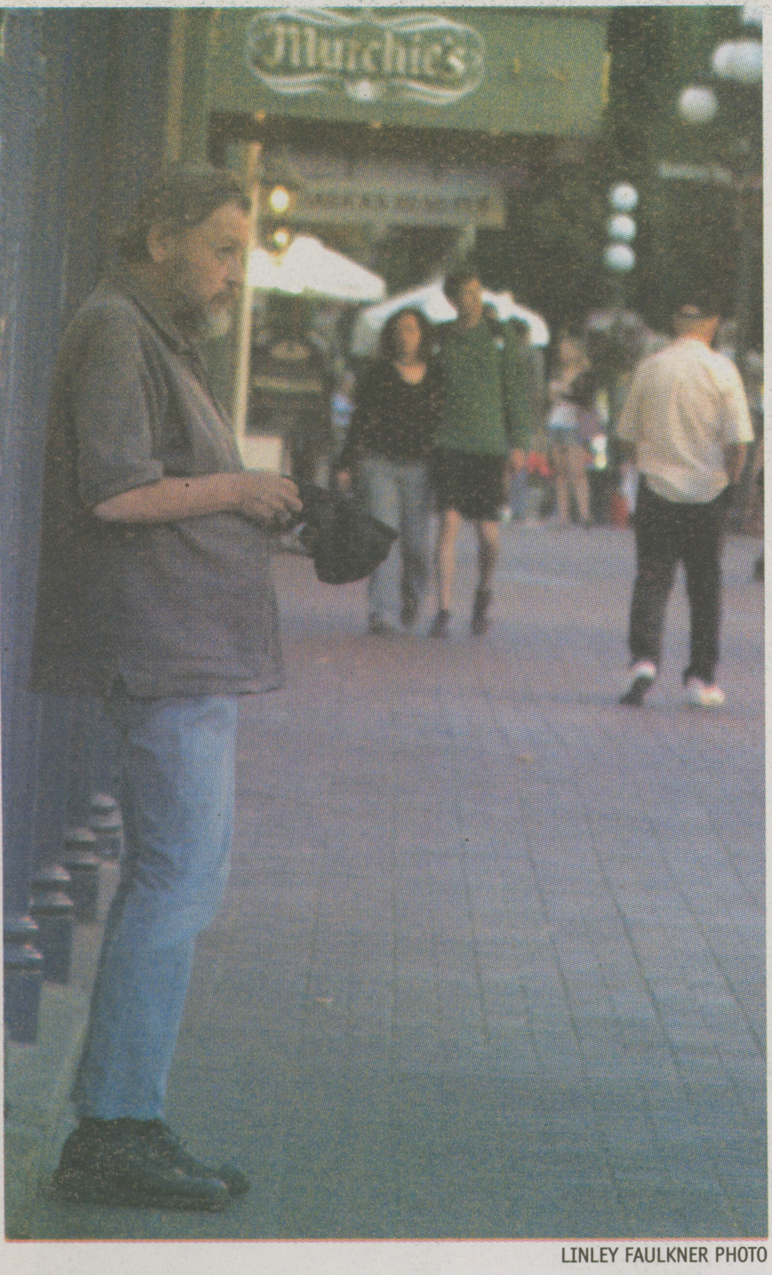
Panhandling forum gets heated response from audience



LINLEY FAULKNER PHOTO

Government Street is popular for panhandlers and tourists.

by Carley Fortune

Inspector John Ducker returned to Victoria from a summer vacation in England and was shocked.

"I was driving to work and I noticed the number of homeless people on our street is so manifestly higher than I've seen before," he told guests at a CBC Radio One panel discussion, hosted by Paul Vasey, about panhandling recently.

Ducker, who is in charge of the Victoria Police Uniform Division, isn't the only one concerned about the increase in the city's street population. Local business owners, MLAs, concerned citizens, activists, students and homeless people filled a meeting room at the Greater Victoria Public Library to hear panellists and members of the public speak about the issue.

Panellists included Ducker, Ken Kelly, general manager of the Downtown Victoria Business Association, and Alan Campbell, director of the mental health and addictions department at the Vancouver Island Health Authority.

According to Vasey, Roger Soane, general manager of the Empress Hotel, started the debates about homelessness in Victoria.

"I don't think I was the one that started it, but I maybe brought it to the forefront," said Soane. "And the reason that I did was it's starting to affect business, my business, and the people that work for me."

Soane recently announced that the Empress lost a $200,000 conference contract with an American client. During a routine site inspection, the client was troubled by Victoria's "aggressive" panhandlers and compared Government Street to Vancouver's Downtown Eastside, an area with a high concentration of homeless people. The client was also unhappy with the quality of shopping downtown.

"Roger has finally told the people of Victoria, 'The emperor has no clothes,'" said Kelly in his opening remarks. "This is a challenge that a lot of us have faced either consciously or unconsciously for a long time. Panhandling is bad for business." Kelly also pointed out that it's only a small amount of panhandlers who are making people feel uncomfortable and damaging business.

Members of the audience were invited to ask questions and give comments at a microphone placed in the centre of the room. The lineup for the microphone only ended when Vasey announced that the room would have to be cleared for another meeting.

Victoria MP Denise Savoie said that we will not get anywhere if we keep talking about the homeless as one homogenous group and stressed that homelessness is a multi-layered problem that the federal government needs to be on board with.

A volunteer from a local soup kitchen told the audience that the street people he serves often use money they get from panhandling for cigarettes, alcohol and drugs.

"These people should not be given money," he said, and added that money should instead go to associations that are trying to help.

"Oh man, you're a piece of shit," a homeless man in the audience shouted.

"Jerk," a woman said in response.

"How many in the room use every penny for the right purpose?" Reverend Al Tysick, who helps the homeless by providing food, shelter and support through his organization Our Place, asked the audience. "I know I'm not one."

Some clapped, others rolled their eyes. Tysick said we must look for real results and that will happen when the community, police and social services all come together.

The Victoria Police have embarked on a short-term project with St. John the Divine Church at Quadra and Mason to try and provide a temporary shelter "for what we perceive to be a number of 40 to 60 of the most visible homeless people who are occupying a lot of doorways and spaces in our downtown area," said Ducker.

Several key ways to address homelessness emerged from the hour-and-20-minute forum, one of them being the need to address the problem immediately.

"We need to take steps today," said councillor Dean Fortin. "This cannot be followed by another forum and another forum."

Other important themes included access to affordable housing, an increase in detoxification sites, support from the federal, provincial and municipal governments as well as addressing addiction within the homeless community.

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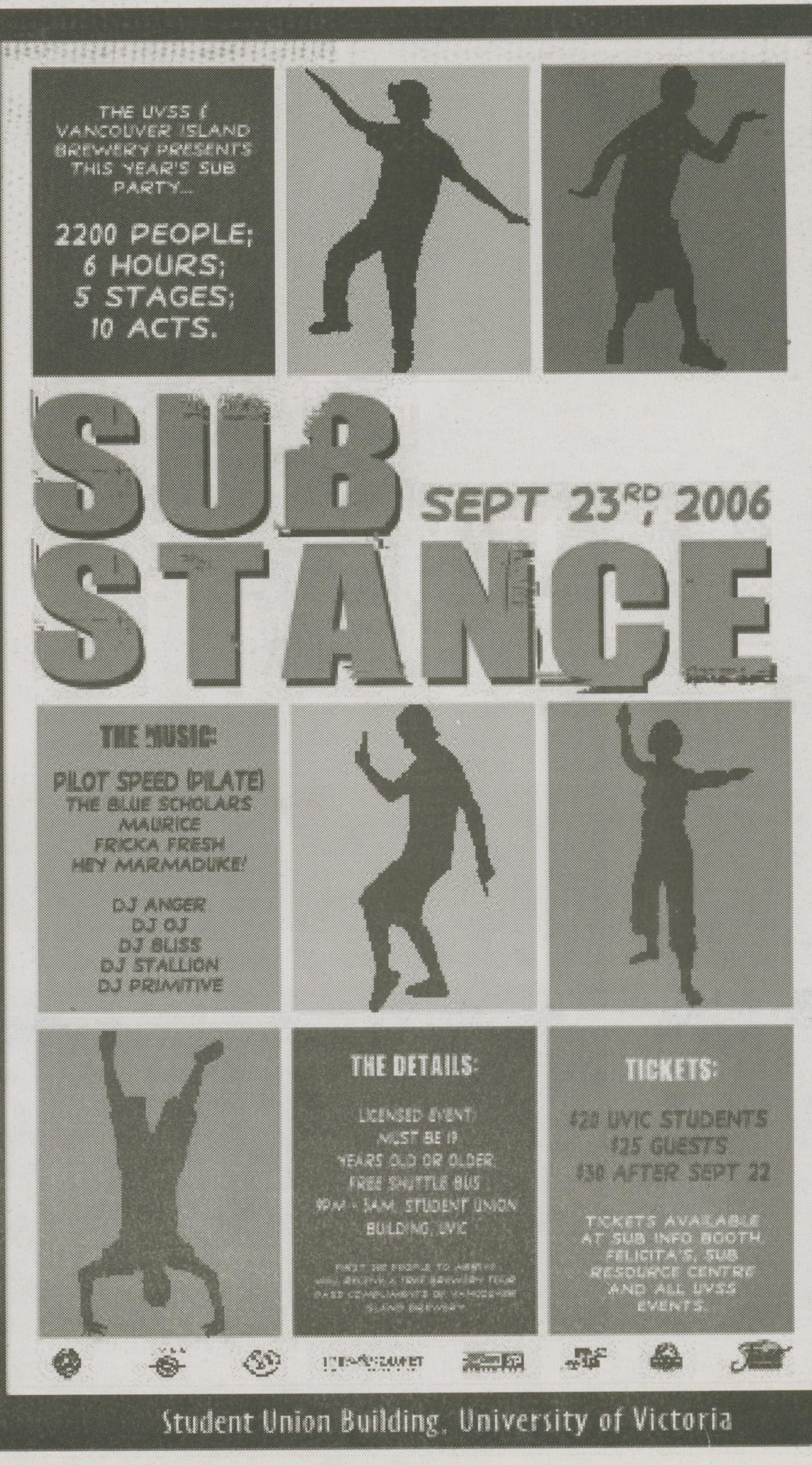

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DIANA NETHERCOTT PHOTO

UVic's Lynne Van Luven has quit her *Times Colonist* column.

Prof pulls column

Times Colonist loses UVic professor's column over colleague's firing

by Rosie Westwood

UVic journalism professor Lynne Van Luven has resigned from her Victoria *Times Colonist* (*T-C*) column to protest the firing of columnist Vivian Smith—a move that caused a wave of anger and doubt within the city's journalism community amid allegations that Smith was fired to appease the paper's advertisers.

"It saddens me to stop writing the *T-C* column, but it seems to me a necessary abandonment on the basis of my own ethics," wrote Van Luven in an e-mail. "There is no point in standing up to be counted if you do not stick to your beliefs."

Smith has since been rehired, and though no reason was given for either the termination or reinstatement of her contract, she has no doubt of the cause.

"One would have to be credulous to believe the *T-C*'s action was not about the advertisers' complaints," wrote Vivian Smith via e-mail.

The "Vivian Smith Affair" began in early July when Smith wrote a column detailing cheap options for Victoria's tourists (as opposed to more expensive trips to Butchart Gardens or tea at the Empress Hotel). The paper issued a front-page correction of the price of children's admission to Butchart Gardens and Smith was informed her contract would be cut short. Tourism representatives had met with publisher Bob McKenzie the day before.

"I am proud of her for putting her own column on the line in the name of journalistic integrity," Smith wrote of Van Luven's resignation.

Van Luven's relationship with the *T-C* was not the only one threatened by her resignation. UVic's journalism program and the *T-C* share a relationship, exchanging teachers for student internships. But Van Luven has spoken with *T-C* editor-in-chief Lucinda Chodan and feels confident that no harm will come to the co-op program or student internships as a result of her action.

"Ms. Chodan concurs with that view ... [and] wants to work more closely with our program," she wrote.

The handling of Smith's contract is only part of Van Luven's criticism of the *T-C*. While Smith has been rehired, the *T-C* has provided no coverage of the issue (Chodan refused comment for this article and others).

"It disappoints me as both a freelancer and as a journalism professor, as I do think it is a newspaper's corporate duty to air such matters as openly as possible in the community via editorials, op-ed articles and letters to the editor," wrote Van Luven.

"If the *T-C* is judged not to be credible by its readers and by the community, it won't make money," Smith wrote. "Circulation will dry up, and the advertisers will go elsewhere."

The *T-C* is not the only paper silent on this story. *The Vancouver Sun*, *The Province* and CH news, all part of media conglomerate and *T-C* owner CanWest MediaWorks, have had no coverage. *Monday Magazine* is the only West Coast-based paper to pick up the story, with most reporting occurring online by *The Tyee* and *Public Eye Online*.

Nonetheless, Smith is neither demoralized nor worried for her journalistic freedom as she resumes her column with the *T-C*. She noted that Dennis Skulsky, CanWest president of publications, and David Asper, vice chair of CanWest Global Communications, have stated publicly that editorial integrity is paramount.

"I should think all CanWest senior editors and publishers who hope to succeed would have the Skulsky and Asper comments framed on their office walls," she wrote, "if not tattooed on their foreheads."

Universities pull out of *Maclean's* rankings

UVic will continue to co-operate with magazine

by Dock Currie

Eleven of Canada's most prominent universities are boycotting the *Maclean's* magazine university rankings, but UVic isn't one of them.

The November issue of the magazine has traditionally ranked universities based on an amalgamation of data that they request from each respective university.

Simon Fraser University and the University of British Columbia are among the universities that have decided not to co-operate with the *Maclean's* survey because they object to the methodology used to rank universities on a general scale.

"It is truly hard for us to justify the investment of public funds required to generate customized data for your survey when those data are compiled in ways that we regard as oversimplified and arbitrary," wrote the presidents of the dissenting universities in a letter to Tony Keller, editor of the *Maclean's* university rankings.

Keller, for his part, takes offence to the suggestion that the data is compiled in an arbitrary manner.

"The accusation that everything we do is sort of illegitimate, inaccurate and unscientific—it's not true," Keller said, noting that prospective students would likely want to know the entry grades for different universities, how many national awards their professors win or how large their student services budget is.

David H. Turpin, president of UVic, was asked informally by his presidential colleagues to sign their boycott, but he declined.

"I don't know whether we would ever—of course we would have to talk about it—but I don't know if we would ever prevent access to information," said president Turpin, referring to the other universities' decision to not provide the requisite data. "[*Maclean's*] can get the information from Freedom of Information, so it's a moot point."

Turpin does, though, acknowledge that the magazine's rankings aren't as rigorous as he might like them to be in determining a university's merit to prospective undergraduate students.

"The argument, the main criticism of the survey, is that it sort of blends everything," Turpin said. "If you have an absolutely outstanding Faculty of X and a somewhat weaker Faculty of Y, and you average it, it doesn't help an undergraduate make a choice."

And, indeed, even *Maclean's* admitted that their rankings cannot provide every merit and detriment for all Canadian universities.

"I don't expect anyone to think that what we do is perfect," said Keller. "But what we put out is very complete; it's very detailed. There is nothing as complete and detailed as this from anyone else in Canada, and certainly nothing as complete and detailed as this available to the public."

With one or two notable exceptions, the universities involved in the *Maclean's* boycott have, in past, done poorly in comparison to UVic.

President Turpin, though, does not feel that simply being higher on the *Maclean's* rankings was a factor in their decision to not boycott the survey.

"We're very proud of the quality of the environment that we've prepared," Turpin said. "And *Maclean's*, and *The Globe and Mail*, and the *National Post*, who all do their own research and rankings, tend to agree with us."

While *Maclean's* says that they will continue to examine the universities that are refusing to provide the publication with information, the job will be much harder. Here are the universities that have decided not to co-operate with *Maclean's*:
- Dalhousie University
- McMaster University
- Simon Fraser University
- U of Alberta
- U of British Columbia
- U of Calgary
- U of Lethbridge
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University 101 widens access to education

Program strives to create a learning environment for marginalized adults

by Norman Ed Baskerville

University 101 is a 10-week introduction to the humanities. Offered free of charge, the course strives to be a learning environment for Victoria adults whose economic and social circumstances have prevented them from experiencing a university education.

"The idea behind [University 101] is that people who are marginalized for a variety of reasons often have access to specific job skill and life skill training, but it's far more rare that they have access to the kinds of learning environments that people with money and other privileges have access to," said Becky Cory, University 101 project coordinator.

Twenty-five new students will begin attending class twice a week at UVic's downtown campus in September. Classes begin with an hour of lecture time followed by an hour-long discussion. Course topics and professors change weekly, and subjects include the classics, critical thinking, creative writing, history, English and indigenous literature.

"Our goals are in some ways more abstract than in other kinds of programs," said Cory. "Students' lives are altered by the course in so many intangible ways that are not necessarily measurable. However, if the program makes them feel that university is more inviting and less daunting then that's good too."

The course, which was first offered in January of 2006, is not intended as a stepping-stone to attending regular classes, said Cory, but she has run into graduates of 101 who excitedly tell her about their plans to enrol at UVic.

"Some of the barriers to attending university go beyond the financial ... we invite applicants to discuss those barriers, and we accept students based on the priority of needs basis, whether they're single parents who don't have time or money for tuition or child care," said Cory.

To ensure there are no hidden costs to the students, the program, which is funded by UVic and local business, offers childcare subsidies for those who need it. Bus tickets, all course materials, a UVic student card for library privileges and meals are also provided.

"Often when you hear 'free' you think there is going to be a catch, but everything was provided," said Lauri Nerman, a graduate of January's pilot program.

Nerman had recently overcome drug addiction and clinical depression when a friend, who was volunteering at the Single Family Resource Centre, told her about University 101. She had attended UVic in the early 1970s but didn't graduate, choosing to enter the work force instead. Nerman thought the 101 course sounded good. Nerman didn't have the confidence to apply until she went to an information seminar and heard of the success of the University of British Columbia (UBC) program, which UVic planned to emulate.

Nerman said it was evident that the course gave the majority of 101 students self-confidence they could use in life.

"It exposed me to a lot of university courses and totally boosted my self-esteem," said Nerman, who is attending UVic part time this fall. Her long-term goal is to complete a master's degree in counselling.

Cory credits Kristin Semmens of the History Department and the Victoria Cool Aid Society for initiating the creation of the UVic program. Semmens had been an instructor for UBC's Humanities 101 course and thought UVic and the Victoria community could benefit from a similar program. Andrew Rippin, dean of humanities, has been a core supporter of the program, said Cory.

The professors and teaching assistants who facilitate the course have told Cory they've never taught to more engaged students.

Nerman said she would recommend the course to anyone thinking about applying.

"It was a very supportive environment," she said. "The professors and assistants and the other students were all supportive."

Cory said there are interesting opportunities for UVic students to initiate other branches of the course. At UBC, students and teaching assistants have connected with University 101 students to organize public lectures given by professors and academics within the community.

"That's something I'd like to develop here," said Cory. "A connection between UVic student volunteers and students from the 101 course to facilitate public lectures, or even study or reading groups outside of class."

The program has been so successful that Peter Keller, dean of the social sciences, has started University 102, a social science-based course, which begins in January.

PHOTO COURTESY OF BECKY CORY

Instructor Alicia Ulysses (left) with graduate Darcy Merrick.

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Possible strike avoided at UVic

UVic's teaching assistant wages are now on par with UBC and SFU

by Jessica Smith

The most recent round of bargaining between human resources and the Canadian Union of Public Employees, local 4163, evened out the pay disparities between undergraduate, master's, and PhD-student teaching assistants at UVic with the threat of a strike this fall.

"This round of bargaining made it so that we could return to one of our founding principles, and that was that you get equal pay for equal work," said Peter Hampton, president of the union that represents about 1,400 non-faculty teaching staff. "It doesn't matter what your student status is, if you're PhD, masters student or undergrad, if you can do the work of a teaching assistant you deserve the money."

The union unanimously voted to hold a strike vote this September if their demands we not met and "that was enough leverage to get us the last few demands that we still had on the table," said Hampton.

Year-round benefits for second-language instructors and more job security for fourth-year PhDs were also included in the settlement.

However, not all of the union's requests were met.

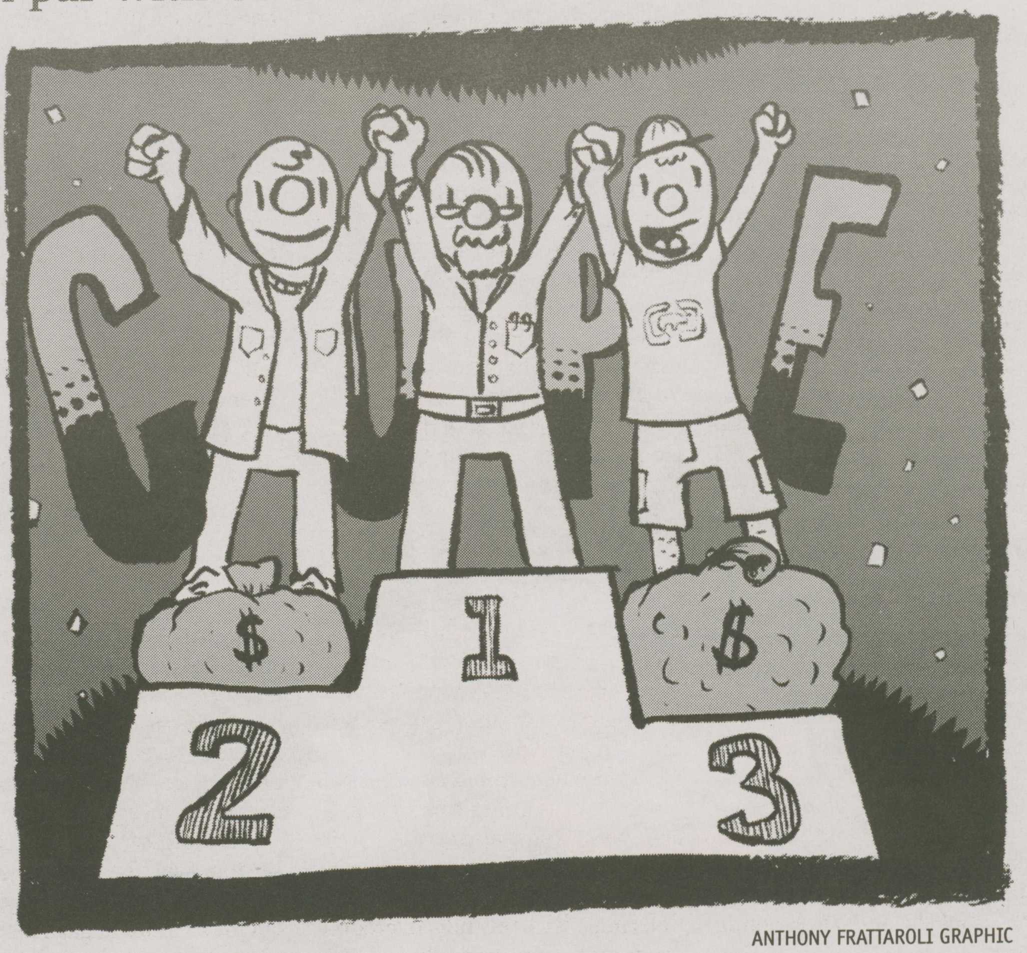
"We also wanted to get the medical and dental that's offered through the [Graduate Students' Society] paid for by the university, but we were not able to achieve that," said Hampton.

According to Hampton, the union was also aiming to get the employees a tuition waiver (free tuition), something he said they are always aiming for. "But, we are aware that that will require a strike to achieve a tuition waiver," he said.

Some universities, such as the University of British Columbia (UBC), have tuition wavers for PhD-student teaching assistants, and Hampton said that the "ultimate goal" for his union would be to have waivers for all students who work for the university because their work is improving the institution.

All employees as of this year are receiving as signing bonus.

Hampton said it is sometimes a "worry when a signing bonus is on the table, that the union will take concessions just to get one-time money," and that the future employees who don't receive the bonus will have a weaker contract as a result.



ANTHONY FRATTAROLI GRAPHIC

"The only thing the signing bonus bought was another year of the contract," said Hampton. "The goal of the government was to make it so that all unions not negotiate right before the Olympics because they don't want a strike while the whole world is looking at B.C. So they threw in the signing bonus to get people to tack on another year of their contracts, so they'll renegotiate after the medals are given out." He believes it was a fair deal, and that since taking the extra year on the contracts will put the next negotiations at the same time as UBC and Simon Fraser University (SFU), giving all three schools more power if they work together.

UVic's teaching assistants are now on par with SFU's, but still earn less than their peers at UBC.

"UBC may be ahead by a few dollars an hour, but they sacrifice other forms of students," said Hampton. "The PhD is the highest, master's students are a few dollars less, undergrads are like half of what PhDs get and its all the same job that they're doing. One of the reasons we're behind is that we're trying to keep everybody equal."

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Artesania donates profits to Darfur refugees

TARN DHILLON PHOTO

Weavers from Peru prepare alpaca wool for use in clothing and other handmade products.

by Carley Fortune

It was a bout of salmonella poisoning from mayonnaise in an avocado salad that caused Tarn Dhillon to open Artesania, a new business opening outside UVic's Student Union Building.

Artesania is a non-profit organization that sells goods from around the globe and gives 51 per cent of those proceeds directly to agencies helping afflicted parts of the world. The recipient of the funding will change every year or so depending on what group Dhillon believes is most in need. The rest of the profit is used for business costs and for Dhillon, who has no other source of income, to live on.

"I'm not trying to make a lot of money off this," said Dhillon, who runs Artesania alone. "It's basically just if I can put enough food on my table, I'll be happy."

Artesania's current profits will go to Doctors Without Borders working in the Darfur region of Sudan. The organization has about 2,500 staff working in Darfur, where citizens are being killed, raped and tortured by the government-lead army and paramilitary forces for allegedly supporting rebels. Doctors Without Borders is trying to aid citizens suffering from starvation and disease and to help refugees flee to Chad.

The UVic grad spent three months this summer travelling in South America. During the first week of his journey in Peru, Dhillon was sick from salmonella poisoning and about to start a nine-hour hike with two friends. Deciding that he was well enough for the trek, the three set off across the Cordillera Blanca mountains. Two hours into the hike, Dhillon lagged behind and suddenly found himself lost and running (in the wrong direction) to find his friends.

Out of energy and feeling sick, he took shelter under a makeshift shed and made a video of his final words. But, a local couple eventually passed and Dhillon followed them back to their village. When he arrived at their home the couple served him french fries while WWE wrestling played on the TV.

The experience made Dhillon think about the differences in living conditions between Western society and poorer countries.

"I felt without imposing any values, without interfering with the culture or tradition, there could be something done, some kind of distribution from wealthier countries to countries that aren't so wealthy," said Dhillon, who then began to envision Artesania, which means "handcraft" in Spanish.

During his travels in Peru, Bolivia and Argentina he bought items from local merchants to bring back to Canada and sell (at the end of his trip he was hauling over 100 pounds of merchandise).

Part of Artesania's philosophy is to sell only handmade products, which Dhillon ensures have been made in fair conditions by visiting each merchant himself.

"You go to these places and you see the tools right in front of them on the table, and they switch from producers slash artisan to salesperson, you kind of see it happening right in front of your face," he said of his experience in South America. He also said that Artesania is not a typical business because it's community oriented.

"Rather than purchasing something from a company and all the money going to the shareholder or the owners, which creates a huge disparity, it actually goes to the community."

According to Dhillon, Western consumers don't know who makes the products they buy or profits from them, but he can tell you the name and story of all the producers of his merchandise. A photograph and bio of each artisan will be available on the website.

"That's the heart of the alpaca," said Dhillon pointing to a symbol on one of the bags made in the Sacred Valley. "Even though they use the [wool of the] alpaca, they express their spiritual connection with the environment; they show their respect."

Artesania also strives for environmental sustainability. The fur and leather products used have been claimed from animals that were found dead. The woods used in the art and household products are from trees that have fallen naturally, and the clothing and accessories are coloured with natural dyes.

"One of the things that inspired me is ... a great quote by Gandhi, and it says, 'Live simply so others may simply live,'" said Dhillon. "And that's what I'm trying to do here."

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STEVEN MASUCH PHOTO

Felicita's renovation includes new floors, booths and lighting.

UVSS preps for the new year

by Kim Armstrong

The elected executives of the University of Victoria's Student Society (UVSS) have spent the summer preparing for the new school year. An increase in bus service, access to hands-on learning, event planning and renovations to Felicita's have all been major focuses.

An initiative to work towards improving student bus service throughout the year is currently being discussed. This would involve increased late-night service, as well as increased runs along both popular bus routes and routes to less-frequented and further-flung neighbourhoods.

"We want ... bus service in general for students to increase so that we can get fewer people being passed up at bus stops, and more service to some of the smaller routes in the outlying communities, because it not only benefits students, it benefits the entire community as well," said UVSS chairperson, Penny Beames.

"It's still in the very initial process," said UVSS Director of Services Mark Chandler. "There are a lot of people with a lot of different ideas, so we're still kind of figuring out which direction they want to go with this."

Improvements to the student learning experience are also being considered, with a focus on increasing opportunities for hands-on learning opportunities. This could include a greater variety of co-op opportunities, a reduction in co-op fees and trying to find ways to increase opportunities for undergraduate student research. Student input will play a large role in this initiative.

This is still in the planning stages. Moving forward will involve, said Beames, "finding different coalition partners on campus, like finding sympathetic faculty, taking our message to the president if need be and then working with students on a really ground level, getting stories—things like, 'I would partake in co-op if I could afford it,' or 'I would be interested in researching in a particular faculty if it was available.'"

More concrete plans include bringing back popular events from last year, such as Bar Apprentice and UVic Idol. One new event, EarthFest, is taking place on Sept. 8. A repeat from two years ago, this collaboration between the UVSS and the UVic Sustainability project focuses on slow living, and taking a step back from the everyday rush to savour things like home-cooked food and local markets.

"What slow living essentially is," said Chandler, " is to kind of slow down and appreciate what's around and to make choices that are ... sustainable and healthy even if they take longer."

Also in the works is a day of action supporting accessible education, organized by the UVSS, Camosun College and the Graduate Students' Society. This annual event will take place on February 7, and is part of a national effort. In past years it has included a rally ending on the lawn of the legislature buildings. Plans for the upcoming day of action have yet to be finalized, and will take shape throughout the year.

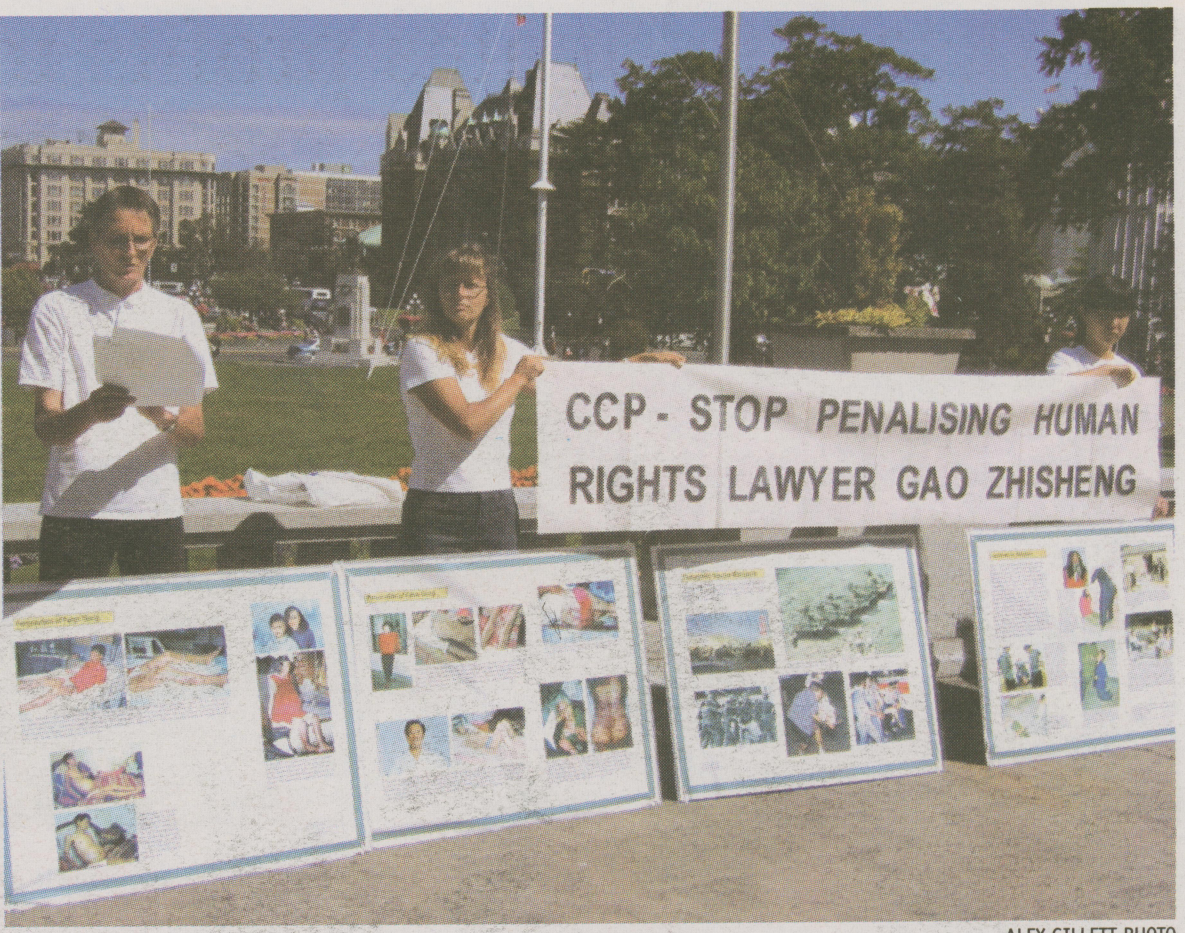
There have been changes made in the Student Union Building since January. Felicita's, the undergraduate students' pub and restaurant, has been undergoing renovations over the summer.

"Essentially, with Felicita's, in the evenings it's a bar, but during the day it's a restaurant, so we're trying to have a space that would benefit both types of business," said Chandler, who chaired the renovation committee. The stage is larger, as is the relocated bar, lighting has improved, booths have been added and new flooring was installed.

"It was a really big sort of investment for the UVSS," he said, "so hopefully students really like it."

The role of infamous former nightclub Vertigo has been under some debate.

"Vertigo, the perennial question," said Beames. "Vertigo will continue to be used as lunch/study space, and we're going to open it up for [on campus] talent to come in and host their own shows." Vertigo is also available for the use of clubs, course unions and advocacy groups free of charge, for meetings, events and performances. Other students are welcome to use the room for their own events, and can apply to the UVSS to waive the rental fee.



ALEX GILLETT PHOTO

The demonstration to raise awareness of China's alleged persecution of Falun Gong members.

Falun Gong practitioners protest in Victoria

Chinese members alleged victims of organ harvesting

by Alex Gillett

Recently a small crowd gathered around posters displaying gruesome images of bloody, dismembered people at the steps in front of the legislature.

A handful of Victoria Falun Gong practitioners organized the demonstration to raise awareness of China's persecution of human rights lawyers and the alleged harvesting of human organs from imprisoned Falun Gong members there.

Guo Ting Guo, the first Chinese lawyer to openly defend practitioners of Falun Gong (a spiritual movement banned in China since 1999), was present at the small demonstration.

He has been living in Canada as a refugee since late 2005, after his home was raided and his law firm was taken away by Chinese officials, he said.

"We have done nothing wrong," Guo said, referring to himself and other Chinese human rights lawyers who are finding themselves under attack from Chinese authorities.

"Lawyers are being told not to defend Falun Gong," said Marie Beaulieu, a local Falun Gong practitioner. "If even lawyers cannot defend those people, where can they go to appeal for justice?"

Westerners need to be aware of the slaughter that is occurring in China, said Beaulieu, as she motioned towards gory pictures of what she maintains are tortured Chinese Falun Gong practitioners.

A report released in July, composed by former Liberal MP David Kilgour and human rights lawyer David Matas, supports Beaulieu and other protesters' claim that China is harvesting the vital organs of persecuted Falun Gong members for sale overseas.

The report concludes, "We believe that there has been and continues today to be large-scale organ seizures from unwilling Falun Gong practitioners. The allegations, if true, would represent a grotesque form of evil, which, despite all the depravations humanity has seen, would be new to this planet."

Kilgour said China should put an end to organ harvesting immediately, or it will risk jeopardizing the success of its Olympic Games in 2008.

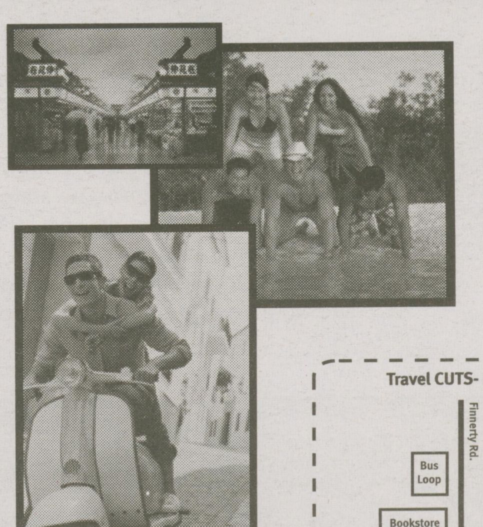
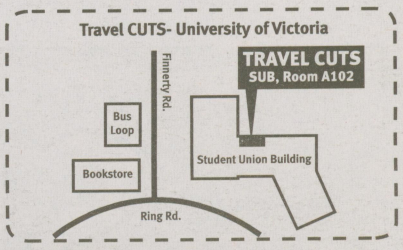
The Chinese Embassy in Ottawa, however, has denied the allegations. On their website, the embassy states, "The so-called 'independent investigation report' made by a few Canadians based on rumours and false allegations is groundless and biased. ... We hope that the Canadian people will not be deceived by the disguise of the Falun Gong, and more people will be aware of the nature of 'Falun Gong' as an evil cult."

Falun Gong, also known as Falun Dafa, was first taught publicly in China in 1992. It combines meditation with Tai Chi-like exercises. The discipline has spread quickly in China and in other parts of the world.

In 1999, the communist Chinese government declared Falun Gong illegal.

"Chinese tourists walk past our display quickly to avoid it," said Beaulieu. "Because in China people are told by the propaganda machine to persecute Falun Gong."

Both Beaulieu and Guo hope to see Canada's government take a firm stance against China's human rights abuses.

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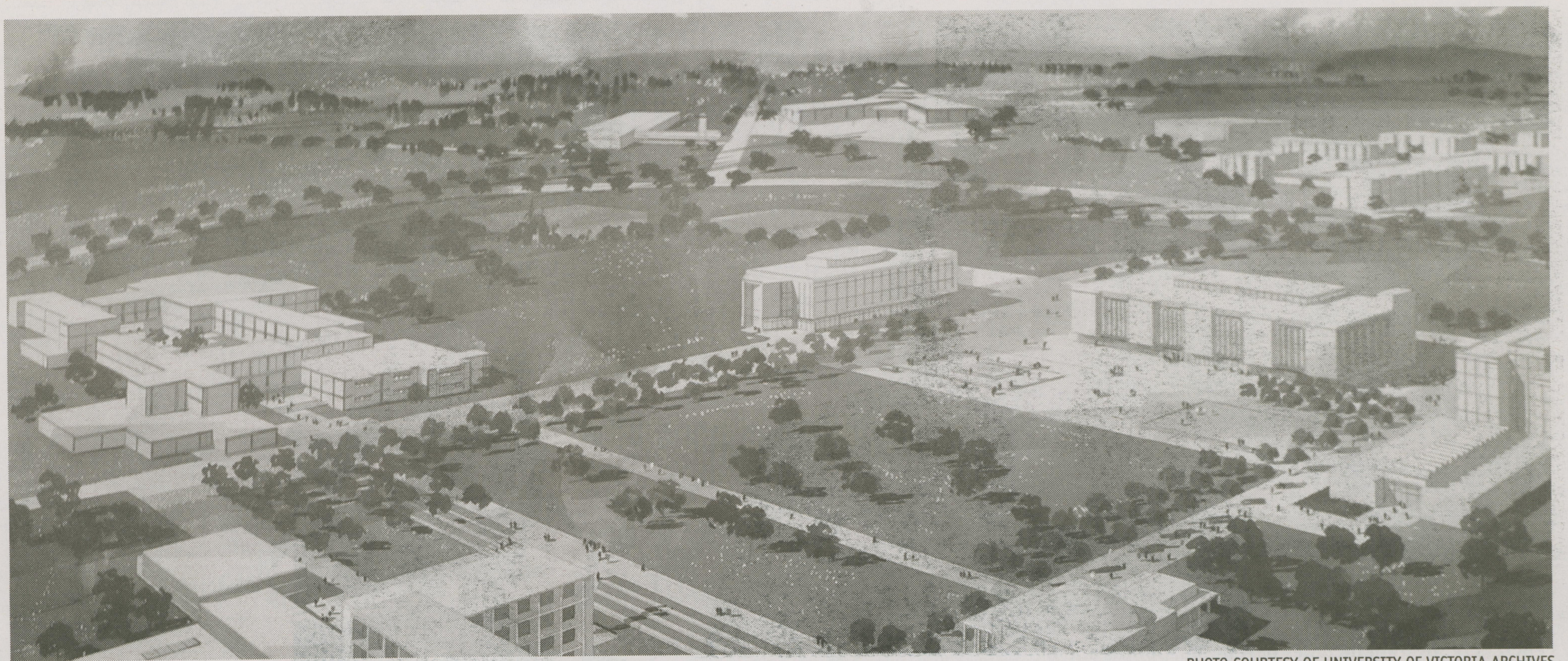

PHOTO COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA ARCHIVES

A concept painting from 1964 shows a proposed plan for the UVic campus. Clearihue A-wing is in the center, with McPherson Library on the right.

Changes in UVic Architecture

From garden campus to city in the forest

by Steven Masuch

When UVic was first being constructed in the ’60s, there was no specified style for individual buildings. They were meant to be dissimilar—mixing different styles together and no one building would visually dominate.

Landscaping would be used instead to join the campus. The original campus planners (the architectural firm of Wurster, Bernardi and Emmons) sought to create a garden campus through the use of local plant species.

The course of architectural design is gradually changing at UVic. Concepts such as environmental sustainability are now included in plans, and contemporary landscaping techniques are being introduced.

But some things remain the same. New buildings will not be joined by an architectural style and landscaping will still serve a crucial role in unifying the campus.

Grounds

John Lantzius was UVic’s executive landscape consultant during the construction of the campus. In a planning document from 1968, entitled *Landscape Concept – University of Victoria*, he stated his goal for UVic’s landscape:

“The overall landscape concept is a merging together of building and site, to arrive at a total landscape which is in scale with the buildings, and to provide a natural and sympathetic background to university life.” His guidelines were meant to be a path for future planners to follow.

When the campus was purchased in 1959, it was divided in half. The north side was owned by the federal government and had been used as an airfield and army base. The south side was owned by the Hudson’s Bay Company and was left unused. Now the school is divided between the Saanich and Oak Bay municipalities.

During its time as an army base, the north half had been completely cleared and levelled, no topsoil remained and the grounds needed total landscaping. The hills around campus today were created from leftover dirt from the construction of buildings.

Today, Donald Vaughan is the co-ordinating landscape architect at UVic. He’s worked at the university since 1965.

“The garden campus is still what we’re doing, the difference is just the materials,” said Vaughan of the current direction.

While landscaping is still used to unify the campus, according to Tracy Corbett, director of Campus Planning at UVic, the style has changed. Rather than creating artificial landscape formations, the present style is to harness raw, natural features.

“Instead of it being more of a garden city concept, where you nestle buildings within planned landscapes, it’s morphed since then to a much greater commitment to protection of open space,” she said.

There has also been a renewed commitment to using local plant species on campus, as stated in the 2003 Campus Plan.

This goal is easier to meet on the Oak Bay side of campus due to the existing forests. The trees around the new engineering and computer science (ECS) building are part of the original Hudson’s Bay Company land.

“In the short term it’s cheaper to just run a lawn mower through something than to go in and hand weed it, so the maintenance cost on new native landscaping is often more expensive in the beginning,” said Vaughan. “But I think that most of the people on campus find the character it provides the campus to be well worth the effort.”

Structures

The original campus planners, Don Emmons especially, wanted no single building to dominate. And although the buildings were not meant to be similar in style, they were to have some things in common. They were to be based upon the local area, local materials would be used to construct them and local architects would design them. There would be a mix of styles, and the entire architectural community of Victoria could get involved.

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STEVEN MASUCH PHOTO

Tracy Corbett, the director of campus planning for UVic, with an aerial photo of the campus.

STEVEN MASUCH PHOTO

Architect Terence Williams helped design the ECS building.

Currently, UVic is constructing larger, more urban buildings. The challenge to integrate them with the existing campus is greater due to their size, but campus planners are aware of the difficulty.

"The buildings are bigger, they're higher, you can't nestle those in landscaping. They say something," said Corbett. "The design of the building will become more critical because you can't hide it."

One of the architects responsible for the design of those buildings is Terence Williams, of the Busby Perkins + Will architectural firm. He has helped to design several campus buildings, such as the Harry Hickman building and the University Centre.

His influences include modernist architects Le Corbusier and Alvo Aalto, and his style could be called neo-modernist. But Williams would prefer to call it "green." He strives to design environmentally friendly, economic and sustainable buildings, goals shared by the university.

Williams' most recent project for UVic is the six-storey, concrete ECS building. It incorporates several green features, such as a grass-covered roof and a windowed roof to let in natural light. These features help to reduce both cost and environmental impact.

The original rule of not having a dominant or iconic building on campus is no longer absolute. If such a building is to be located away from the others, or if it is one of a kind, then it might be acceptable to campus planners.

The McPherson Library was originally intended to be the closest thing to a dominant building due to its position on the inner quadrangle of the campus. But as more buildings were constructed around it, it lost its strength.

One of the possible locations for a distinctive building would be in the northwestern tip of the campus, by McGill Road and McKenzie Avenue because of its isolation from the rest of campus.

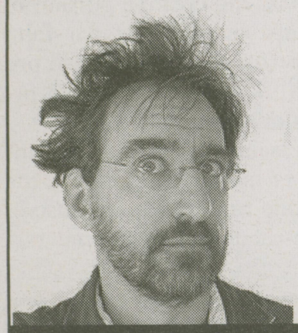
"That might be an area where you really think about a different statement, because it doesn't have be consistent with anything around it," said Corbett. "There are no surrounding buildings that it needs to nestle with or be respectful of. This is kind of sitting out on its own."

The people currently working on UVic's appearance are happy with it, and will continue with the plan of different buildings mixed together with local, natural landscaping.

"I think the design and vision, in terms of nestling buildings in the landscape, is very strong. They communicated it well enough that it carried through from the '60s into now," said Corbett. "So I think it was well articulated and I think, for the most part, well implemented."

"Many of the visiting faculty that switch back and forth have all commented that first they find the campus kind of spread out too far," said Vaughan. "But, after a few days here they begin to realize it's a very pleasant experience and works well for education."

"It's very Canadian in a lot of ways, in that it's polite and not outrageous," said Williams. "It's democratic and it's founded on certain principles of logic. And it's certainly not whimsical."



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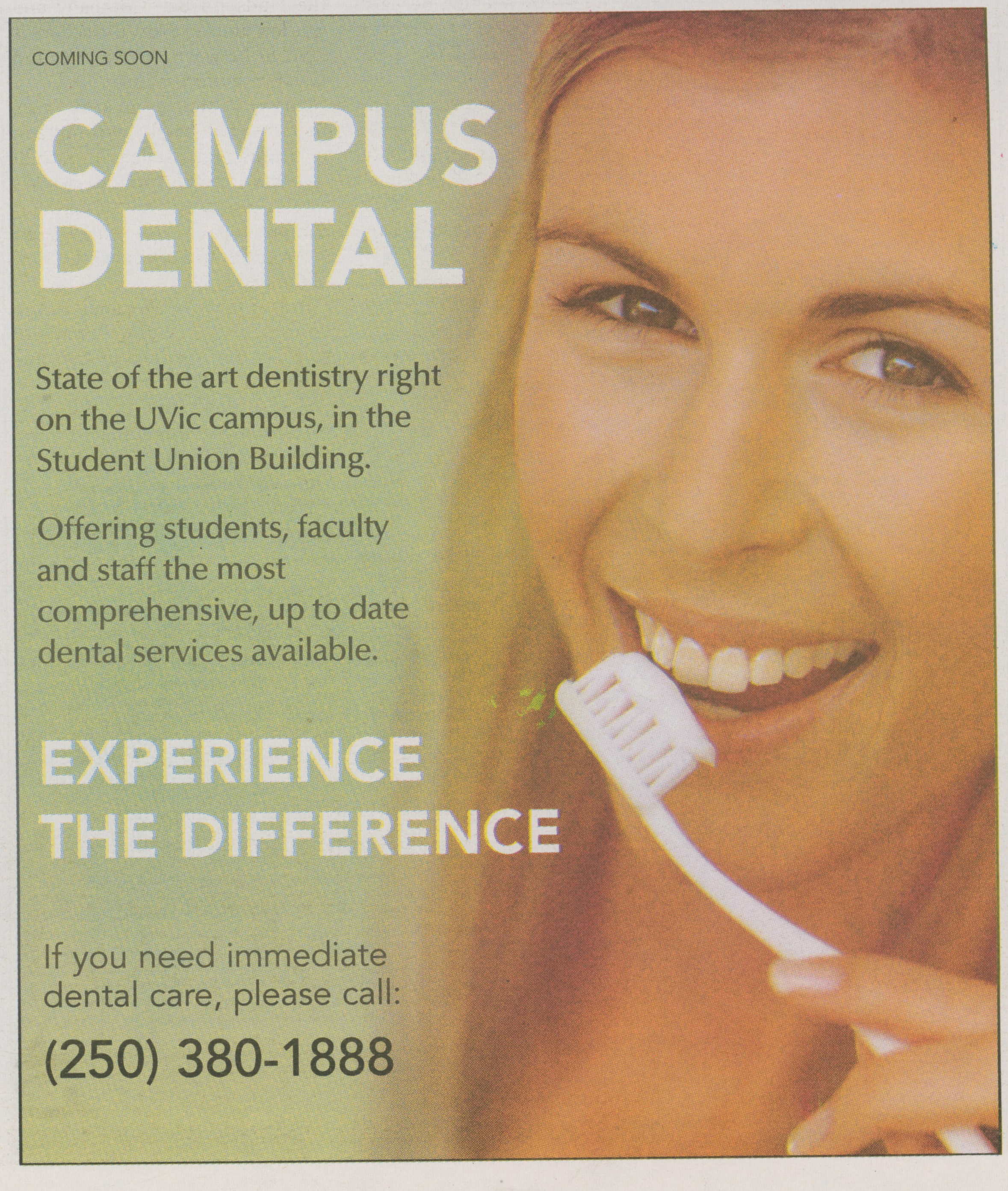

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Olympic development threatens ecosystem

by Amanda Stutt

VANCOUVER (CUP) — What was a short time ago a rare but thriving ecosystem is currently a construction site being developed as part of the plan to improve the Sea To Sky Highway north of Horseshoe Bay in anticipation of the heavy traffic the 2010 Olympics will bring.

For some parties involved, the loss of the Eagleridge Bluffs is not an isolated incident, but a microcosm for a larger environmental legislative issue that needs public attention.

According to University of British Columbia ecologist Diane Srivastava, Eagleridge Bluffs contains "one of the most unique and threatened areas along the entire [highway] ... because of the combination of plant species ... as well as other individual species."

The Eagleridge Bluffs ecosystem is listed on the Ministry of Environment's red list—the highest classification of endangerment for species or ecosystems.

However, while some of the species at the bluffs are threatened with extinction, they are still listed on the province's blue list, which includes species and ecosystems the province deems are of special concern.

But, Srivastava said, at the moment B.C. has no legislation to protect species that are on the red or blue lists.

"We know they're threatened," she said, "but there is nothing we can do."

While federal legislation exists under the Species at Risk Act, the government has not matched this legislation at a provincial level to protect endangered species.

"I think Canadians in general are under the illusion that we have some great environmental legislation," Srivastava said. "Unfortunately we don't. While we have a lot of endangered species ... we have some of the worst environmental legislation."

According to Srivastava, the destruction of the bluffs will result in habitat fragmentation, and over time the entire area will be lost.

Mona Benge, a resident of West Vancouver and communications volunteer for the Coalition to Save the Eagleridge Bluffs, said there were plans to implement a tunnel rather than an overland highway, which would have posed less of a threat to the sensitive ecosystem of the bluffs and was supported by West Vancouver residents. Federal and provincial environment agencies also supported the tunnel option, she added.

"B.C. Transport Minister [Kevin Falcon] chose the overland route ... based on safety and financial considerations," she said. "But by the time you get all the appropriated land costs ... you are going to have a road that is more expensive than the tunnel."

"They had other options," said Benge, who was surprised that the overland route was chosen over the tunnel. "What we've discovered is that there is planned a large real estate development called Eagleview ... and putting the road through this way allows British Pacific Properties to develop that a lot earlier than they would have otherwise."

"There is constant monitoring before work begins like the management plans have to be approved and signed off by various agencies [such as the] Canadian Wildlife Service so all that work has gone to the project before they can begin construction," said Mike Long, director of communications in the Ministry of Transportation.

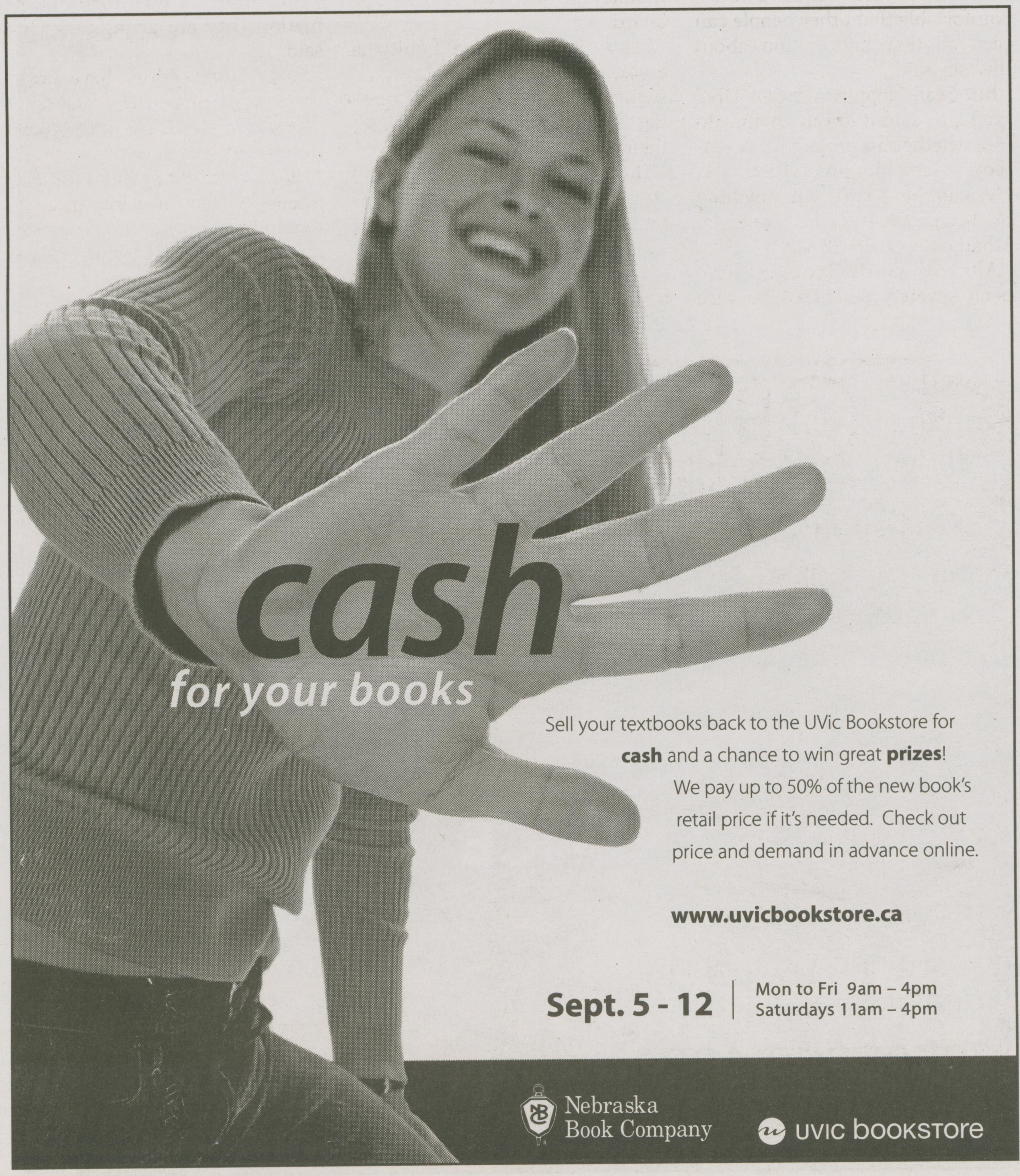
Long said no problems have arisen so far on the construction of the highway and that they are abiding by environmental regulations and guidelines of their management plans.

"They can't work outside of these guidelines," he said. "These are the rules that are required and they have to follow in terms of proceeding with the construction and if they don't follow those rules they get shot down."

According to the Green Party's Damian Kettlewell, legislation on species at risk is "seriously lacking" and favoured towards the developer.

"Ingraining habitat protection and enshrining it in a provincial legislation is going to make the difference," said Kettlewell. "The government simply hasn't acted—they don't have the legislative teeth to really do anything."

For Srivastava, the issue is a moral one. "We might lose this battle," she said, "but there is a bigger war to be fought ... the bigger war is getting strong provincial legislation that would protect threatened species."



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Girl Guides hope to boost numbers with racy ads

Images contrast with wholesome cookie-vending persona, but Girl Guides officials expect rise in membership due to them

by Abbas Somji

SCARBOROUGH (CUP) — In a bid to boost recruitment figures, the Girl Guides of Canada (GGC) have kicked off a new ad campaign that has come under public scrutiny in recent weeks.

The new campaign, which made its debut mid-summer, features a series of risqué, graphic images that critics say come in stark contrast to the wholesome cookie-vending Girl Guide persona.

Ashley Chin, a second-year Queen's University student, said the new Girl Guides ad campaign uses an inappropriate and misleading recruitment strategy.

"[Is Girl Guides] a means of preventative action? Or is it really an organization that offers an opportunity for girls to foster teamwork, leadership skills, and to learn and grow?" asked Chin.

One particular ad depicts "Candi," a fictitious pre-teen songstress, posing provocatively for the camera, with a list of overtly sexual album tracks, such as "Taste Me" and "Naughty Girl" printed on a side tab. At the bottom of the ad, a strategically placed cartoon girl looks on, and points at the tag line that reads, "Why girls need guides."

Another ad is a web banner for cellulite cream, urging young girls to use it to prevent cellulite before it starts. One final ad looks like a cover of a magazine called *Modern Girl* with titles of articles, such as "Make His Interests Your Interests—it's okay to pretend!" splashed across the front.

"The idea behind this campaign is just to turn the mirror back on society and say: 'If this is what your daughter is being exposed to on a daily basis, wouldn't it make sense to put her into Girl Guides?'" asked Angus Tucker, creative director of John St. Advertising, who designed the ads.

But, not all former Guides are fond of the new ad campaign.

"The GGC program has always been about leadership development, self esteem, taking risks, making friends and having fun in a safe environment," said Shauna Klein, marketing and development manager of Girl Guides Canada.

She said the campaign has been successful in bringing the Guides back into the public eye, and that the general public has responded positively to the advertising campaign.

Klein said the goal of the ad campaign is to make parents realize that impressionable young girls are now, more than ever, in need of strong mentors to direct them through the barrage of negative messages transmitted through the media.

Another reason for this new marketing tactic is a steady 20-year decline in GGC membership, due to competition from other organizations, clubs and community centres that offer recreational programs or activities.

Klein said the placement of the various ads—all at discounted rates—cost Girl Guides of Canada $500,000. The creative portion of the campaign was donated by John St. Advertising, as part of their pro bono work with not-for-profit organizations.

Klein said she expects an increase in membership during the fall Guide registration because of the eye-catching advertisements.

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NEWS BRIEFS

Student group campaigns to impeach student union members
The Simon Fraser University student union board members, which is responsible for the firing of a popular staff member, may face impeachment. Grassroots organization Students for a Democratic University (SDU), in response to the firing, has begun to collect the 1,500 signatures required to hold a general meeting where impeachment can take place. SDU is questioning the credibility of the firing of the staff member, who helped bring in a controversial graduate student health plan.

ATM-swiping thieves captured
Recent arrests in Suffolk County, New York should help put an end to a series of robberies in the area, say police. The county has been plagued by a wave of ATM thefts, where thieves actually stole the entire machine, which can hold thousands of dollars, and left them in the bush. The machines were taken mainly from family-owned pharmacies and stores by a pack of robbers. In one instance they smashed a front window of a deli and took the ATM out through the hole.

More dinosaurs to be discovered
Seventy-one per cent of all dinosaur genera fossils have yet to be discovered. Peter Dodson of the University of Pennsylvania and Steve Wang of Swarthmore College announced this estimate at Tuesday's proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. Dodson who first estimated the potential number of dinosaur genera in 1990 is now is revising that. Dodson estimates 1,850 genera will eventually be discovered. So far 527 genera have been found.

ANTHONY FRATTAROLI GRAPHIC

Online mystery recreates Viking ages

by Michelle Martin

PROVIDED PHOTO

L'Anse aux Meadows is one of the possible sites of the first North American Viking settlement.

In Norse history, Vinland is an area of North America where the Icelandic Vikings first settled. Yet the true location of the Viking settlement that flourished along the Atlantic Ocean 1,000 years ago is still in debate.

Grapes grew in Vinland, according to Norse history, but there are no grape vines in northern Newfoundland, where many suspect was the site of Vinland, also called Wineland. Or maybe Vinland was in Cape Cod or even Rhode Island.

This dispute is the starting premise of an online mystery set to become part of the Great Unsolved Mysteries in Canadian History website next year.

When the ancient settlement is reborn on the web, thousands of students across the country will become junior sleuths.

"You will have a figure, representing you, walking around the site as it was in 1,000 AD and virtually picking up artifacts," explained UVic history professor John Lutz.

Lutz helped spearhead the Unsolved Mysteries website project nearly a decade ago and remains heavily involved with the day-to-day co-ordination of the project with partners at universities across the country.

So far, the project website features six mysteries that highlight such heinous crimes as murders, bombings and fires.

However, the Vinland mystery will be unique as it will be the only mystery in the project to integrate archeological evidence into the investigation.

Once the project is complete, 12 mysteries will be online for the public's perusal.

Research toward the Vinland mystery and two other puzzles recently received a $492,000 grant from the Department of Canadian Heritage.

The grant will be funding "The Mystery Man of Baie Saint Marie," which investigates the identity of a legless man who washed up on the beach of a tiny Acadian community in Nova Scotia in 1863.

The other puzzle is "Who Discovered Klondike Gold?," which examines race relations of the period by questioning whether it was George Carmack, his aboriginal wife or another prospector all together who started the gold rush.

The easy-to-navigate mysteries have become popular teaching tools at both the high school and university level as they offer a one-stop-shop for historical evidence such as maps, charts and historical documents.

"People heard about it and the next thing we knew it was being used in most universities across the country," said Lutz, noting the mysteries are a great way to entice students to delve into more complex historical issues.

Last year, the Canadian Mysteries website had 12 million hits from 236,000 different visitors.

Facebook's network could be dangerous to students

Social networking website can be accessed by professors and employers

by Carolynne Burkholder

VANCOUVER (CUP) — With over 7.5 million users, Facebook.com is the ultimate networking tool. But many students aren't aware of the dangers of an open social networking website, especially one that can be accessed by professors, administrators, or potential employers.

"Anyone with a university e-mail account can get a Facebook account," said Johanna Waggott, a residence life manager at the University of British Columbia (UBC). "I don't think students think about that when they are putting stuff up on their profiles."

She advises that students "shouldn't put anything on Facebook that they wouldn't shout out in a crowd." Waggott points out that she has been invited to banned parties in her own residence through the Facebook website.

Teri Yoo, a second-year science student at UBC, said she hadn't thought about university officials or potential employers seeing her Facebook profile. "I'm kind of uncomfortable that other people can read all that information about me," she said.

But Sean Hepple, a recent UBC graduate, said it doesn't matter to him whether his professors or employers look him up on Facebook. He said he hasn't put anything on his profile that he would be ashamed for them to see.

Although no UBC students have been severely penalized because of their activities on Facebook, this has happened at other universities.

Last year Saul Martinez, a student at the University of Oklahoma, was investigated by the Secret Service after he wrote that President George Bush should be assassinated and replaced with a monkey on a Facebook message board.

Later that year, two Louisiana State University students lost their swimming scholarships after making disparaging remarks about their coach on Facebook.

This lack of privacy and control over free speech concerns computer science professor Richard Rosenberg.

"I don't think universities can justify infringing on students' privacy," he said. "Inhibiting free speech is contrary to the way a university should operate."

But Rosenberg also advises students to use caution.

"These websites encourage people to provide a lot of information and make connections," said Rosenberg, "but a lot of students aren't aware of how much information they are giving away," he said.

Several universities have drafted policies on social networking websites. One of the first official statements was developed at Cornell University. It includes the cautionary advice: "It is important to remember that Facebook is malleable and creates as many obligations as it does opportunities for expression."

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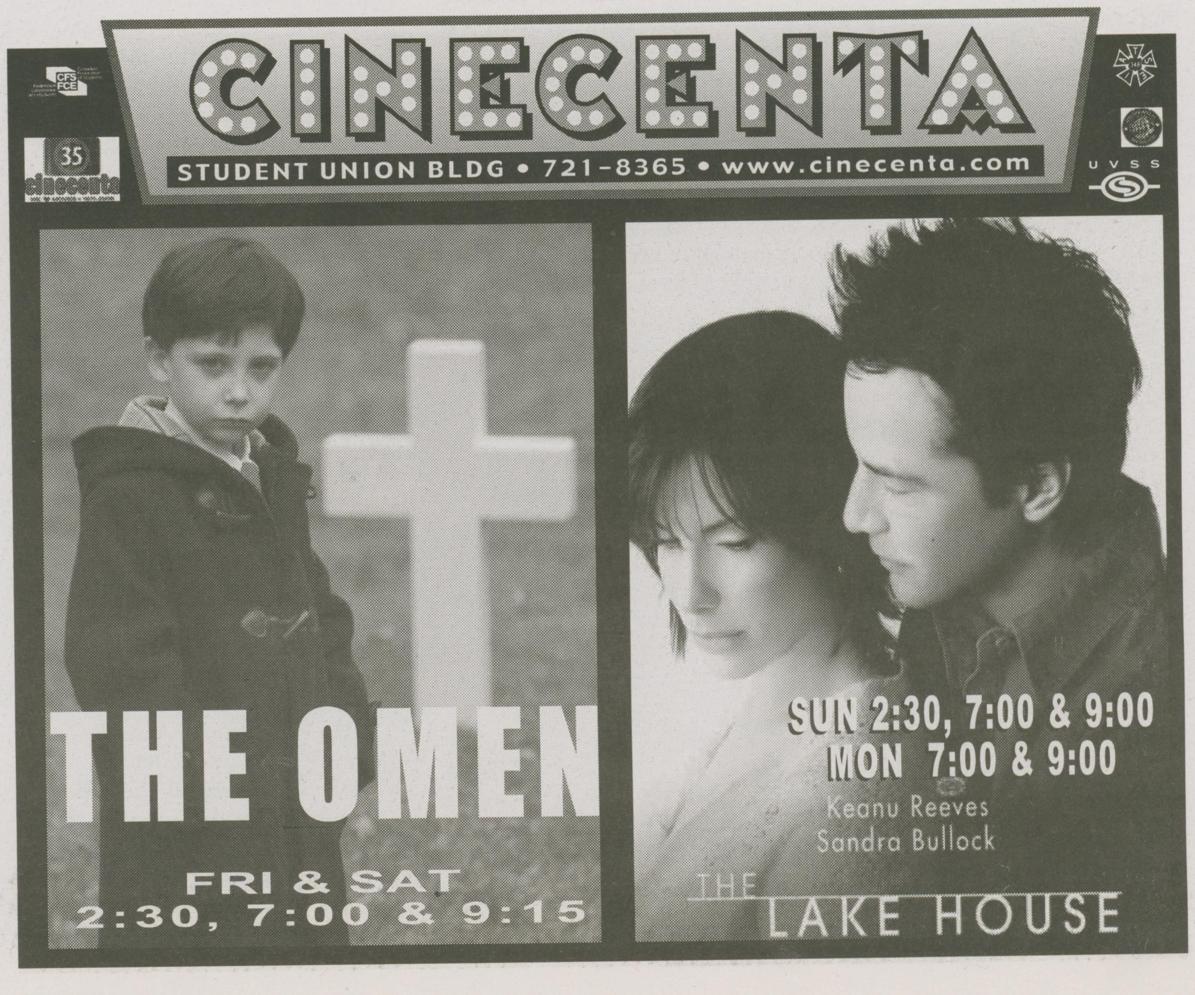

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Editorial

Firm solutions for homelessness needed

When CBC Radio One decided to hold a 10 a.m. public forum about homelessness and panhandling, the station could have had little idea that by 9:30 there would already be enough people lined up outside to fill the Greater Victoria Public Library's Talking Room.

Politicians and activists, young and old, people in designer labels and homeless people all crowded into the same space, and many were turned away once the room met its 70-person capacity.

The forum resulted in tears, shouting, cheers and a never-ending line of people waiting for their turn at the microphone. And so, what may have been an organized Q&A with panellists turned into an unstructured outpouring of the community's frustration—frustration with the city, frustration with the homeless, frustration with government.

While some spoke about lobbying for increased support to the city's homeless population, wealthy old biddies rolled their eyes and muttered that hobos should simply get jobs and stop doing drugs.

When one speaker proclaimed that Victoria cannot always look like the postcard we want it, others asked, Why not?

Really, nothing was accomplished that morning at the library. No apparent, agreed-upon solutions were given to help alleviate the rise in homeless. But, what was made perfectly clear was that, despite what motive lies behind wanting to get rid of Victoria's panhandlers, something must be done.

A 30 per cent increase in homelessness within one summer is not acceptable.

What was most nauseating about the panel was that it was a lost business contract and the threat of future losses because of so-called "aggressive" panhandlers, not the dramatic rise in the city's street population (which is actually not at all hostile or aggressive) that sparked the latest round of debates on homeless issues.

It does seem, however, that the police and the city are searching tirelessly for solutions, but they need major financial backing from both the federal and provincial levels of government to implement lasting programs such as residential rehabilitation.

Currently in Victoria there is only a system to deal with problems on a short-term basis. Help is provided for immediate injuries, infections and detoxification, but with nowhere to be discharged to, patients are sent back to the streets with a number for a drug counsellor.

What is crucial to fighting homelessness is access to residential rehabilitation programs. These are programs that introduce former homeless people into society, with social workers assisting them with jobs, rehabilitation and day-to-day living once housing has been found. No such program exists in Victoria today.

But whether something substantial will be done before next summer is dubious. That would require the painstakingly slow federal, provincial and municipal governments, along with the police, health officials and social workers, to all get together and decide on concrete ways to handle the issue, instead of acting alone and blaming others for failure. But the chances of happening are slim, if not impossible.

But one of the hardest tasks that must be tackled is breaking down the hostility some conservative residents of Victoria feel towards the city's street population. Their uneducated, condescending and snooty attitude towards homelessness (one woman commented that next time no homeless people should be allowed at a public forum) was appalling and exponentially more repulsive than any homeless person on our streets.

Feeling angry? Mad? Frustrated? Aroused?
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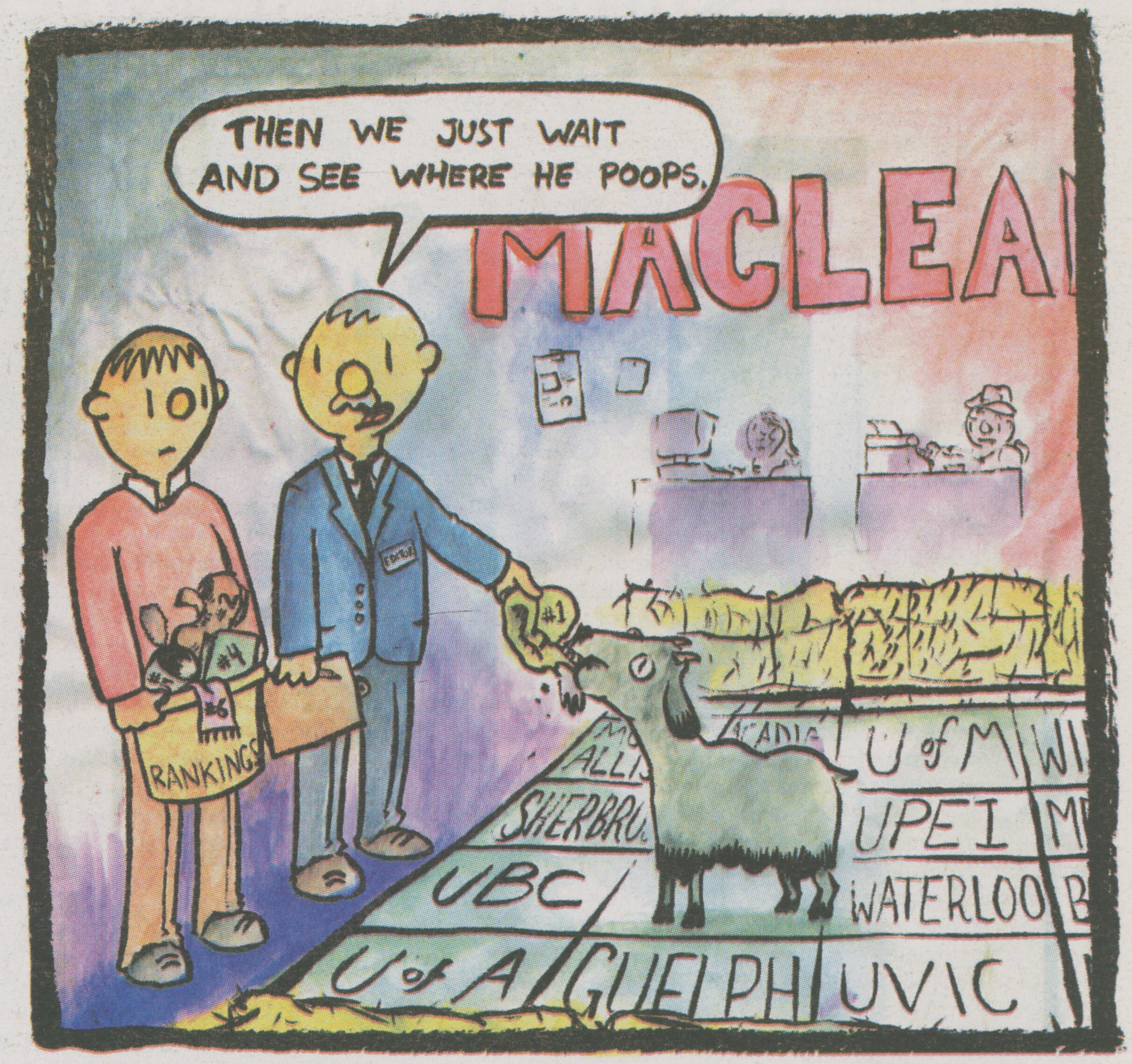

ANTHONY FRATTAROLI GRAPHIC

LETTER

Sustainabilty begins at home

According to your article on David Suzuki in the August 17 issue, the David Suzuki Foundation recommends that people wishing to conserve nature commit themselves to three of 10 action items. The one item conspicuously missing from his list is limiting family size to two children or less. His five wonderful children, no matter how frugally they live, are still consumers of resources and producers of waste. The one thing this planet certainly cannot afford is continued population growth.

Claire G. Cupples, PhD
Professor
Department of Biochemistry & Microbiology
University of Victoria

Schools can't charge fees

Illegal school fees victimize low-income families

by John Young

School fees, charged province-wide except for Nisga'a and Victoria students, are a violation of the School Act, Section 82.

The legislature, years ago, wisely passed the School Act, which prohibited fees for both the educational program—meaning all the courses in the public school system—and prohibited fees for all the learning resource materials students need to achieve high school graduation.

B.C. Supreme Court Justice Montague Drake, in a landmark decision, ordered the Victoria School Board to cease and desist charging fees for educational programs for all school-age students. As a veteran Victoria school trustee, I launched the lawsuit against my own school board.

Section 82 of the B.C. School Act states that "a board must provide free of charge to every student of school age (ages 5 to 19) resident in British Columbia and enrolled in an educational program in a school operated by the board," and provided "educational resource materials necessary to participate in the educational program."

Supreme Court Justice Montague Drake stated the following about fees for the necessary learning resource materials:

"As a matter of common sense, such [free] materials would be those which are fungible, that is to say, goods which are consumed in the course of instruction in educational programs. Obvious examples of these materials are the reagents used in chemistry classes, the wood used in carpentry classes, the food used in cookery classes and the materials used in other domestic economy classes; materials used in the teaching of science and arts and crafts, in general, within the curriculum of educational programs which lead to graduation.

Since such courses are to be offered free of charge it follows that the materials used in them must themselves be free of charge, as indeed is required by the School Act."

Judge Drake then went on to say, "There should be, then, no charge for the materials used in educational programs. The fact that the student may make something from these resource materials is immaterial."

Subsequent to the Supreme Court ruling by Justice Drake, the Minister of Education issued an order that attempted to overrule the decision of the Court.

All school boards, except Victoria and Nisga'a, have used the Ministerial Order as authority to charge fees, even though both the School Act and the Supreme Court prohibit these fees.

In my second lawsuit, heard in the Supreme Court on Aug. 21 and 22, I affirmed that neither the Minister nor the school board have the authority to ignore the School Act, and the BC Supreme Court decision, that school fees and charges are illegal for both the public education program and the necessary educational resources that accompany the program.

I also claimed that parents should refuse to pay any school fees. The School Act requires every school-age child to attend school, and to be provided with a full and complete educational program leading to graduation, free of charge. Only the Legislature can change this law—not the Minister of Education, not the school board, and not the school principal.

It is time to abolish all school fees in the province and insist that the Ministry pay the full cost of public education—at an estimated extra cost of less than one per cent of the provincial education budget.

It is illegal for any school to deny a school-age student a full and complete educational program because a student has not paid some kind of fee or charge.

Parents are strongly urged not to pay such fees or charges. Their children cannot suffer a penalty or discrimination of any kind for not paying a school fee.

Any violation of the School Act concerning illegal school fees should be brought to the attention of the B.C. Advocacy Institute, John Young, president 388-7043 ext. 15 or info@schoolfees.ca.

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Contact us now, and get involved with the paper!

Get involved with student government

UVSS Chairperson urges students to join the university senate

by Penny Beames
UVSS Chairperson

So you made it to school. You've guzzled a coffee, caught the last possible bus to campus and managed to dodge the teeming hordes of new students and table vendors. Take a deep breath. After all, this is only the beginning.

Before you crack the spine of that first textbook, it's worth taking a step back and thinking to yourself, "Who the hell runs this place, anyway?" The answer, in part, is the university senate.

Made up of representatives from all university faculties, the senate is the body that oversees all things academic at UVic. It deals with curricula, admission requirements, grades and even gives the final approval on who gets to graduate.

The senate also handles academic planning and decides how the university will develop as an educational institution over the coming years.

Most of the senate's work happens in committees, smaller groups of senate representatives who meet frequently to hash out important details to be brought to regular meetings. These committees often seek out student representation from the UVSS so that students who aren't on senate can participate in university decision-making.

We haven't always had representation on such boards, though. Students across the country rallied in the 1960s in an effort to win seats on bodies like the senate. Driven by the idea that the student perspective should be included in decisions that ultimately affect students, we developed a nation-wide movement called Academocracy. Thanks to the hard work of our predecessors, we've been electing representatives to the senate at UVic since 1968.

Why should you join Senate?

One, you provide a crucial voice at the table. You'll be a student helping to make decisions that are going to affect students. That simple. As hard as it may be to believe, professors, staff members and UVic administration sometimes forget what it was like to be a student.

Plus, the university experience is very different now than it was, say, 20 years ago. You have a current and relevant perspective that will help shape UVic and make life here better for yourself, your friends and your peers.

Two, it's a great way to help make change on campus. If you want to highlight a particular academic faculty or department, want to see improvements made to areas on campus, or have an idea for how to make the academic aspects of student life better, the senate is a place where you can set your ideas in motion.

Three, the senate makes for great experience that you just can't get in a classroom. It's an opportunity to see how a university body is run, to get experience making decisions at a high level and to learn how to craft arguments for something other than a research paper. Basically, it's experience that'll help you out there in the "real world" we all dread so deeply.

So go grab yourself another coffee, wipe the sleep out of your eyes and think about it. Spaces for students are still available on this year's Senate and Senate Standing Committees. Nominations must be submitted to the senate office by September 15. Nomination forms are available online.

For more information on how to get involved, contact me in the Resource Centre in the SUB, or e-mail me at chair@uvss.uvic.ca. You can also contact Joy in the senate office directly at joya@uvic.ca.

See you on the senate!

Music publishers take down tablature websites

by Steve Carey

Remember when you worked out the finger picking to that Johnny Cash song, wrote it on a napkin and then e-mailed it to your friend? Turns out, that's illegal.

Tablature is a text representation of music that shows notes by string and fret. Several high-profile online tab archives recently received letters threatening legal action from the Music Publishers Association (MPA) and the National Music Publishers Association (NMPA) of America.

A common feature of tab sites is a disclaimer explaining that the tabs are not for sale, and are provided only for private study and educational purposes. Since no money changes hands and no one is selling the music as their own, site operators assumed that they're not breaking any laws.

Not so. According to U.S. copyright law, the right to make and distribute arrangements, adaptations, abridgments or transcriptions is the exclusive property of the copyright holder. This means that the MPA and the NMPA are well within their rights to ask that the tab websites be taken down and the offending material be removed.

Sites in question are the volunteer run Online Guitar Archive (OLGA.net) and Ultimate Guitar Archive (Guitartabs.cc). The NMPA and MPA have yet to sue infringers, instead opting to use the take down provisions in the Digital Millennium Copyright Act to threaten without suit.

That's pretty nice of the lawyers. After all, they could just sue the ad-revenue-just-barely-keeps-us-afloat tab site operators, pecking away at them in court until the legal fees bankrupt them. The lawyers' letters use phrases like "good faith," "penalty of perjury" and "demand," but should really say "or else."

It's a case of technology being ahead of the music industry's business model. In a statement to *The New York Times*, an MPA spokesperson estimated that a single guitar tab could cost $800 per song to produce, license and format for downloading.

What a lack of forward thinking.

Anyone who can play a song can write a tab, from a monkey with an accordion to the fattest racehorse in the world.

It's as much of a burden as it is a boon: there aren't standards built into the format, time signatures are hard to represent, common chords go unlisted and they're riddled with mistakes.

After many failures, a music publisher sanctioned solution to distribute electronic sheet music and tabs will be developed. The artist will then have control of their music and get the revenue they deserve from the sales or licensing of their songs. Perhaps they'll distribute them through their MySpace websites, a method that most artists have embraced to communicate with their fans.

How has this affected the guitar player? There's no way the music publishing industry can seamlessly fill the gap they created by taking down these archives. They can provide all the Bob Dylan tabs in the world in book form, but for obscure songs or classics the tech-savvy guitarist will tirelessly search the same way as they do now: via news groups, message boards or lower profile websites.

The regulation of electronic sheet music is just another step in the commercialization of the Internet, but that won't stop guitarists from picking and clicking their music online.

Altruistic nature shines in midst of chaos

The role of Christian values in international humanitarian organizations

by Francesca Oliverio

The number of natural disasters and catastrophes seems to have increased radically, as if overnight. News channels have been saturated with stories on hurricanes, mudslides, tsunamis and earthquakes too numerous to keep track of. The stability of our planet is in question under these circumstances.

Fortunately the genuine, altruistic nature of people tends to shine brightest in the midst of such destruction and chaos in the form of humanitarian and relief organizations.

The foundations for contemporary humanitarian law were set out in the 1864 Geneva Convention. Discussion centered around protecting the victims of conflict by providing care without discrimination, as well as recognizing and respecting authorized medical personnel, transports and equipment. A big step towards humanity was taken with the formation of the International Red Cross organization.

At present, there are countless organizations that reflect the mandate of caring for others in times of immense need and calamity. Responses to these needs are varied in nature.

Food for the Hungry continues to assist the two million homeless victims of the Indonesia Tsunami.

World Vision has disbursed more than $12 million in emergency supplies to aid those affected by Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita.

World Concern distributed food and planned the construction of wells in recent droughts disasters affecting Kenya and Somalia.

The Salvation Army offered psychosocial support in the form of tsunami post-trauma counselling following the disaster along the south coast of India.

Habitat for Humanity is working to help house families displaced by the conflict in Lebanon, reconstructing houses that served to shelter over 1,000 displaced Lebanese in need.

What do these particular humanitarian organizations have in common? Their identity and goals are defined by Christian values.

Long before the formalization of international humanitarian law, individuals and faith communities provided relief in times of crises, such as natural disasters and wars. After all, justice, mercy and charity are prominent themes of the Holy Scriptures.

For believers, whether Christian, Jew or Muslim, there is a duty to respond to the needs of the poor, oppressed, displaced and hurting people of the world—a powerful motivation for humanitarian action.

The Christian missionary tradition especiaily has influenced church involvement in all areas of social services, such as health and education. Although some may flag these events as part of colonialism, it is impossible to negate the importance of these early humanitarian movements, as well as their influence on secular humanitarian organizations.

For example, the original motto of the International Committee of the Red Cross was Inter Arma Caritas ("In War, Charity"), a Christian-inspired slogan.

Today, Christian non-governmental organizations are active in virtually all parts of the world and are committed to respecting the religious beliefs of those receiving their assistance. The scope of these organizations that work at a worldwide level is not to "convert" or Christianize populations in need. In fact, the organizations that have roots in Christian values emphasize that faith be a way of life through the spiritual disciplines of charity.

Christianity is without doubt one of the most controversial concepts spanning the ages. It is also one of the most misunderstood. By providing relief to people in dire need, humanitarian organizations act as reminders of the values first implemented by Christ: compassion, humbleness, mercy, courage, healing, justice, love and serving one another.

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M3a

V.59 issue5

ART DOWN BY THE BAY

UVic student designs Cadboro Bay mural

LINLEY FAULKNER PHOTO

Gedidiah McCaughey speaks at the ribbon cutting for his Cadboro Bay mural.

by Jessica Smith

Cadboro Bay celebrated Saanich's centennial with doughnuts, coffee, country music, a clown and the unveiling of an abstract mural inspired by the history of the area, painted by UVic student Gedidiah McCaughey.

The ribbon cutting event was held on the side of Sinclair Street, in front of the mural on the wall of People's Pharmacy. Mayor Frank Leonard, MP Denise Savoie and about 50 Caddy Bay locals gathered around McCaughey's work, while the clown made Cadborosaurus balloon animals for the kids and the local folk band Water in the Crawlspace played.

The blue, orange and pink wall is abstract, but has a recognizable image of the bay and mountains in the background. When McCaughey was asked to describe the mural he worked on for a month and a half, at first he could only sigh.

"Describe the mural, oh God, I've merely put it to bed" he said. McCaughey wanted the 60-foot mural to "have a narrative concept, where there would be a story that you could run along the entirety of it" that focused on the history and mythologies of the area.

The mural includes an image based on a legend of Mystic Vale, of woman looking in to the creek for the face of her true love, and the Cadborosaurus.

It's "something along the lines of an Ogopogo or a Loch Ness," McCaughey said. "Apparently it's history that there's some sort of sea-dwelling beast outside Cadboro swimming around in the bay there."

McCaughey is from Calgary, and when he started the project he didn't know the area's legends, so he read about them in a book called Cadboro: A Ship, A Bay, A Sea-Monster by Ursula Jupp, and talked to locals.

"I heard a thousand stories," he said, "but it always came back to the Cadborosaurus."

In a speech to the crowd Mayor Leonard said that while everyone he has spoken to sees something different in the mural, he sees it as "a billboard that says, 'We care about our community.'"

McCaughey thanked the community for their tolerance. A few days before the unveiling, he explained that taking the sensibilities of the community into consideration made him create art that was quite different from art he would create for himself.

"There's somebody who lives across the street from that mural, who basically has to wake up every morning now and look at that, and there's a hundred people who stop by every day to pick up their groceries, who now have to park in front of that," he said. "It's still my concept, but that had to be toned down to subscribe to the people who live there."

McCaughey's design was approved by the city council after he and six other UVic students presented their designs and an explanatory essay to the Saanich City Council this spring. Having his design chosen was a strange step for McCaughey, because he's primarily a photographer, not a painter. Either way, it's great for his portfolio.

"It's so hard, and getting harder, to get any artwork out there," he said. "So to have something that big and that permanent, it's a real step for me anyway."

McCaughey is pleased the community and the local business association trusted him to do it.

"For them to reach out to an undergrad student for a proposal is a pretty tightrope kind of step. So big kudos for them," he said. "They took a really important step in funding not just the arts, but students of the arts as well."

ARTS
Prof's exhibit showcases Navy

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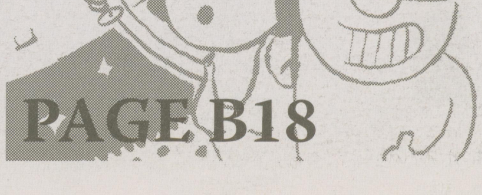

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UVic prof's exhibit explores faces of the navy

HO TAM IMAGE

This untitled portrait from 2005 is one of many in professor Ho Tam's *Romances* exhibit.

by Rosie Westwood

Their faces cover the spectrum of human expressions—a grin, a cocked eyebrow and a deadpan stare. These faces of men and women make up the 34-member crew of HMCS Calgary and the subject of UVic professor and artist Ho Tam's recent exhibit.

On display September 5 to 28 at the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria, Tam's *Romances* is an exhibit born of a 10-day trip he took from Pearl Harbour to the Esquimalt Naval Base as part of the Canadian Forces Artist Program. The program allows artists to gain inspiration by spending time with the military and create art for the Defence Department in return.

While the Canadian Forces Artist Program was established in 2001, Canadian artists have been capturing images of the military since 1916 when the first war artists were commissioned.

"I have an interest in groupings and working with issues over masculinity. The navy is a logical step for me," said Tam from across a round wooden table in one of the gallery's back rooms.

The portraits that will lie in a straight line around one of the exhibition spaces have yet to be hung. They are limited to faces; no rank or distinguishing clothing can be seen.

"I'm not really interested in that part," Tam says of the navy's hierarchy. "I'm interested in the humanistic part of these people."

He grew in respect for navy men and women, "how they deal with being away from home and the rough condition they have to work through." Tam hopes that these faces will inspire onlookers to imagine the lives of the real people who inspired the paintings.

"I had no idea what I was getting myself into," Tam grinned. "I thought, 'The Canadian navy, they don't do anything.'"

Although most of the crew was friendly and hospitable, Tam found the bureaucracy frustrating.

"I couldn't always get what I wanted," he said.

Yet far from being put off by his trip, Tam wishes he had more time aboard the HMCS Calgary.

"It feels like it's just a beginning," he said.

But the tight knit nature of the navy has meant that, despite his efforts, Tam hasn't been able to take another sail. As a result, his exhibit combines both what he actually experienced and what he imagines navy personnel might experience.

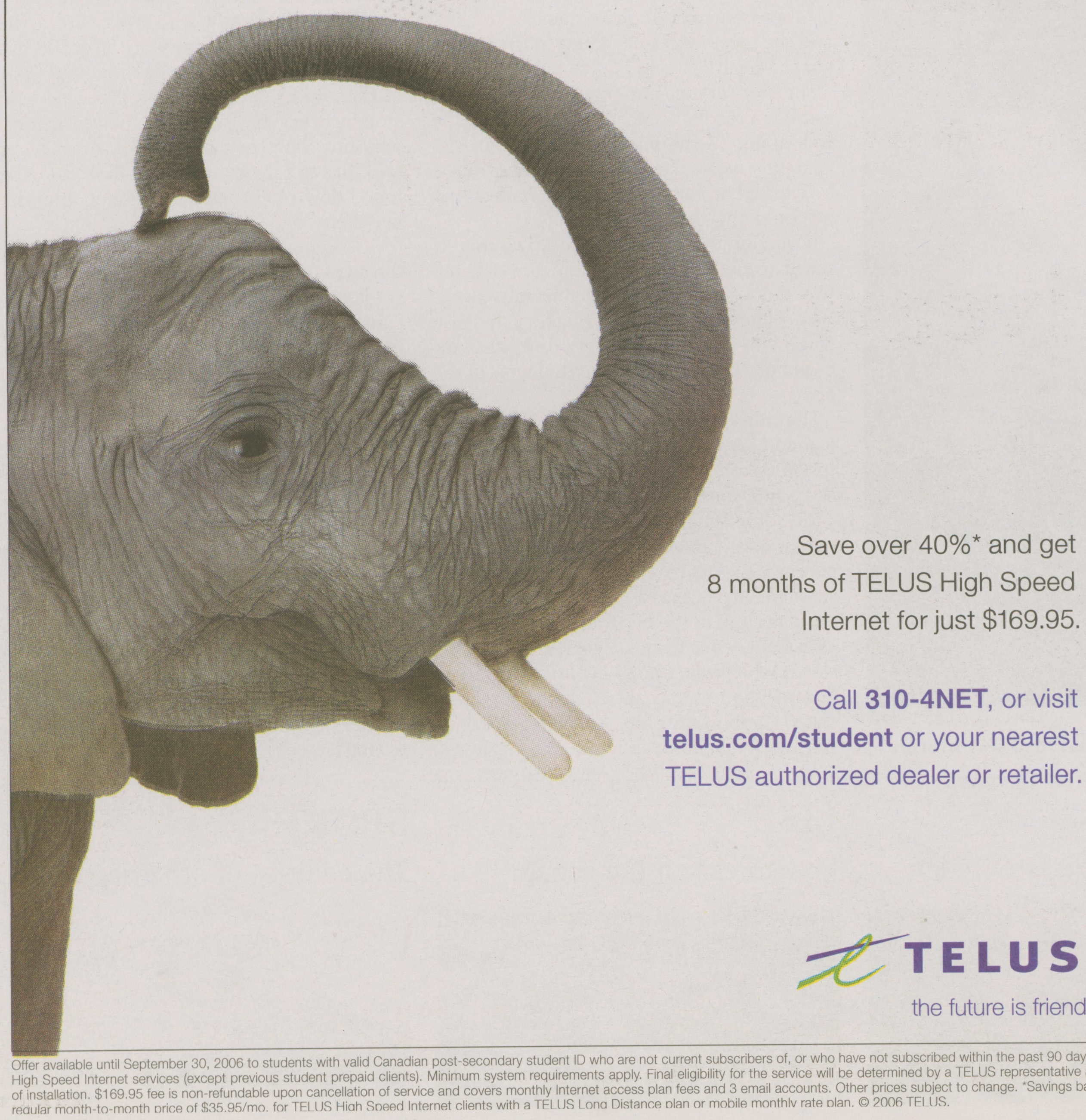
This show is a departure for what Tam typically does. For one thing, he hasn't done a painting exhibit for almost 10 years and he doesn't normally work from his imagination.

September is a busy month for Tam with two other projects underway. His film *Books of James* recently won the Outstanding Artistic Achievement Award at Outfest in Los Angeles, and another film, *Fine China*, is screening at the Museum of Modern Art in New York City.

"Because of the distance, I had to rely a lot on the merging of fiction and facts to create a narrative and try to have it open," he said. "As a filmmaker, I'm always drawn to the narrative."

Regardless of whether he boards another naval ship, Tam's interest in the navy is peaked and he plans on expanding the exhibit when it moves to Paul Petro Contemporary Art in Toronto.

You do the math.



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The Clips secure Vancouver music scene

Band from MySpace is making the jump from MP3 singles to a full-length album

by Benjamin Moore

JANIS BRASS PHOTO

Vancouver's The Clips, an avante-electronic-rock band, are set to release a full-length album this fall.

I know what you're thinking. You're thinking the story of yet another upstart band emerging from Vancouver's shadows with their MySpace dreams in tow isn't newsworthy. And you're right, it isn't. So when I tell you that The Clips aren't just another band—or that their EP is nothing short of remarkable—it's because I mean it.

When The Clips' five members teamed up in October of 2005, they had one thing on their minds: to lock down Vancouver's music scene. Now with their self-titled EP behind them and a full-length album scheduled for an autumn 2006 release, the band is beginning to see some of the recognition they'd hoped for.

"I feel quite confident in what we've achieved so far," says Clips member Cohen Brown from a hammock in his backyard.

Brown, who plays keys, "turns knobs" and sings backup with the group, says that while their stage act might still need work, the music seems to be taking care of itself.

"There are elements of rock, pop and even electronic doodling in there," he says in a tired, the-fans-wouldn't-let-me-leave-last-night voice. "The composition is dynamic enough that you can just sit and listen to it, but it's also got breakout parts that you can dance to."

Call it avante-electronic-rock, a sound with distinct echoes of Radiohead and Sigur Rós that The Clips use to drive you forward one moment only to place a massive wall of noise in your path the next. It sounds painful, but in fact it feels surprisingly good.

This autumn's yet to be titled album will be the band's first full-length release. From there, they plan to begin approaching labels.

"But there's no rush," says Brown. "We're more interested in how our stuff is received at this point, rather than how often."

But isn't that what everyone says? Why would it work for them and not for the thousands of other bands lining MySpace's virtual halls?

"For the fact that we have a creative sound that's new and original," says Brown, perking up almost defensively.

"People can relate to it because it means something to them and it strikes either an emotion or something deeper and even more primitive inside of them." He laughs. "I hope that doesn't sound too ridiculous."

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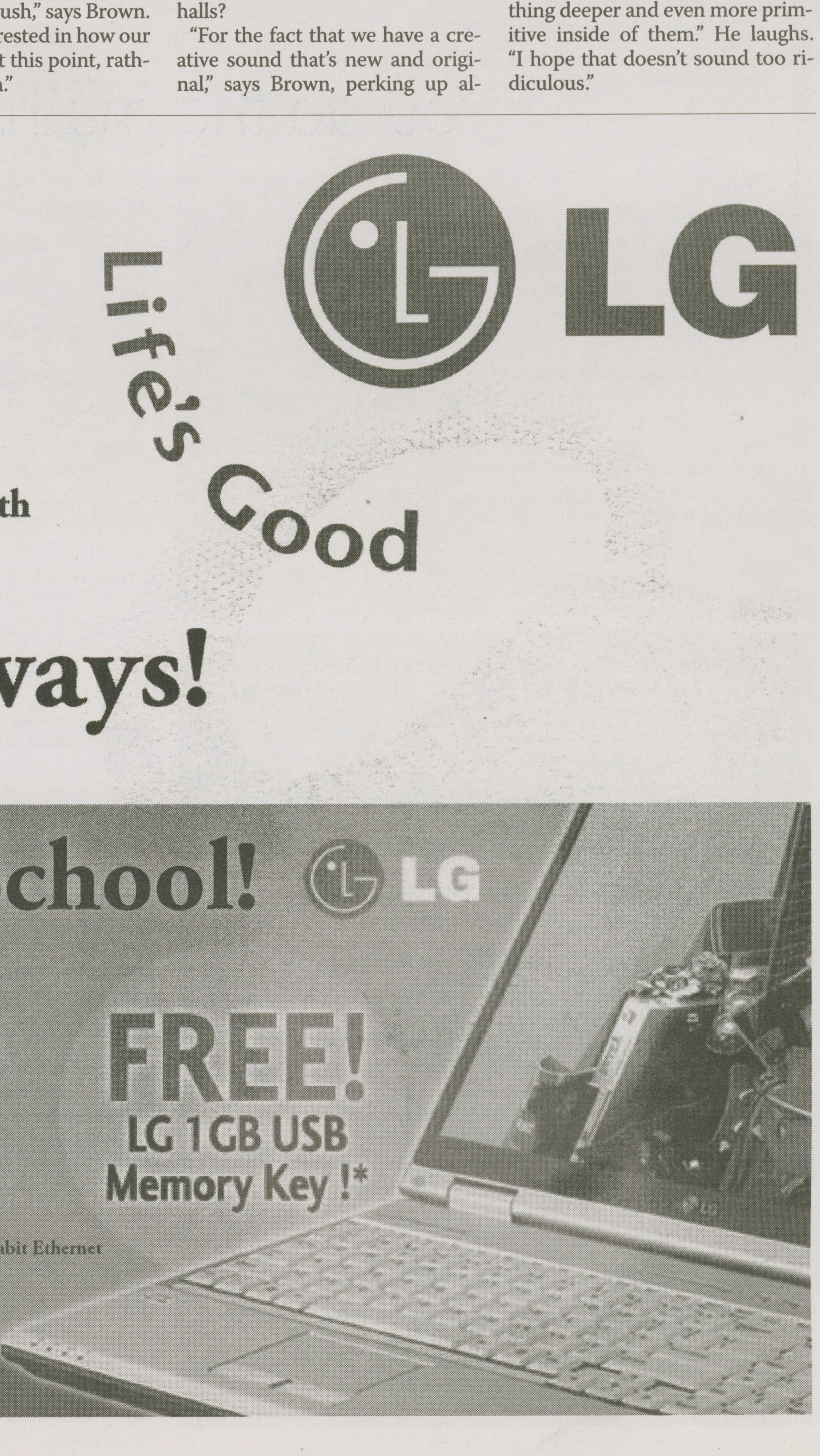

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On the road with MeatDraw

by Benjamin Moore

BENJAMIN MOORE PHOTO

Indie band MeatDraw was formed in the spring of 2005.

It had seemed like such a good idea at the time.

I'm hurtling up Highway 1 in a minivan that ought to have been deserted or destroyed years ago, cramped between a drum kit and what looks to be some sort of half-pint tuba. In the front seats are Stefan and Marco Bozenich—two of the six members that make up the indie band MeatDraw—seemingly unaware of the peril our lives are in. As we bump and thud our way up the Malahat en route to a show in Nanaimo, I'm convinced the van is going to blow.

"She'll get us there," says Stefan from the driver's seat, sensing my discomfort.

As we arrive at the venue—a legion hall tucked away in some far corner of suburbia—I breathe the proverbial sigh of relief. Clusters of kids occupy the parking lot, stubbornly edging out of our way before flashing recognition at the sight of The Brothers Bozenich, when an awkward cheer not so much erupts as gurgles over. This is MeatDraw's second appearance here and it seems they made an impression.

"It's great to be a part of this younger community," says Marco, smiling back at the pods of zit-pocked teenagers. Stefan is half out the window, barking obscenities in a friendly sort of way. "Some of our best audiences have been at these all-ages gigs."

When Marco, 28, began forming MeatDraw in the spring of 2005, armed with a hazy vision and a demo of 12 tracks he'd solely produced, the former RantMusic guitarist had no idea what kind of madness would ensue. But with over five years of band experience under his belt—during which time RantMusic recorded five albums, toured North America over a dozen times and crossed the Atlantic twice—the elder Bozenich at least had an idea of where he wasn't going with his talent.

"I wanted to write songs that were completely different from what I was doing with RantMusic," says Marco as he begins to unload the band's gear. "I wanted them to be simple and innocent, and then to find a bunch of musicians that were awesome, but not too concerned about always coming off as awesome."

And so it began. With former band mates Sara Hart and Will Koltai eager to continue where Rant had left off, Marco rounded out their group by enlisting the aid of his brother Stefan, AA Sound System drummer Marek Tyler and Lily Fawn of Victoria's Hank&Lily. With a host of instruments that includes an accordion, bicycle tire, chain-and-bucket and saw, the six immediately began building on the material Marco had already developed. And people loved it.

"I think it's just a more truthful sound, more indicative of our personalities," says Marco, straining to be heard over the noise of the sound-check. "It puts us off-guard a little and it's just not such a super-rock-star sort of thing ... it's very down-home and lighthearted."

Something listeners want, apparently. Whether performing to a younger demographic or taking the stage at a local bar, the band has appreciated enthusiastic support from its audiences.

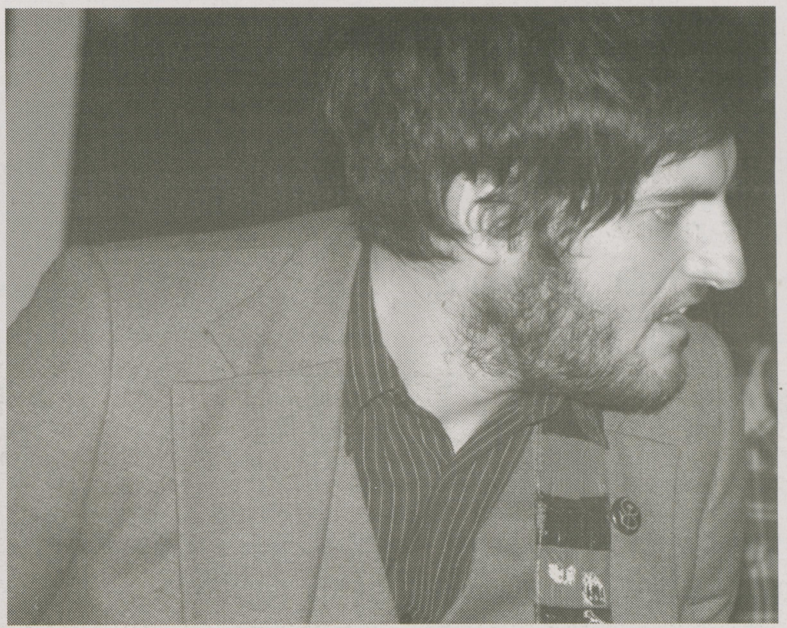
"We've been getting a lot of people to dance, which is surprising because, well, we're not exactly a dance band," says Marco, unless of course the idea of someone dropping a chain into a metal bucket is what it takes to get your feet stomping.

Since signing a "pretty easy-going West Coast contract" with Victoria's Self-Righteous Records this May, MeatDraw has been focusing their time and energy on creating their self-titled debut album, which was released in August. The 10-track beast promises listeners much of what they might find at a live show, but how that is best described is anyone's guess.

"It's kind of an older, timeless sort of feel," says Marco, attempting for the second time tonight to wrap his head around the issue. MeatDraw has finished setting up and its members linger about the parking lot, warming up their vocals with a bottle of rye and a pack of Canadian Classics. "It's a constant work in progress."

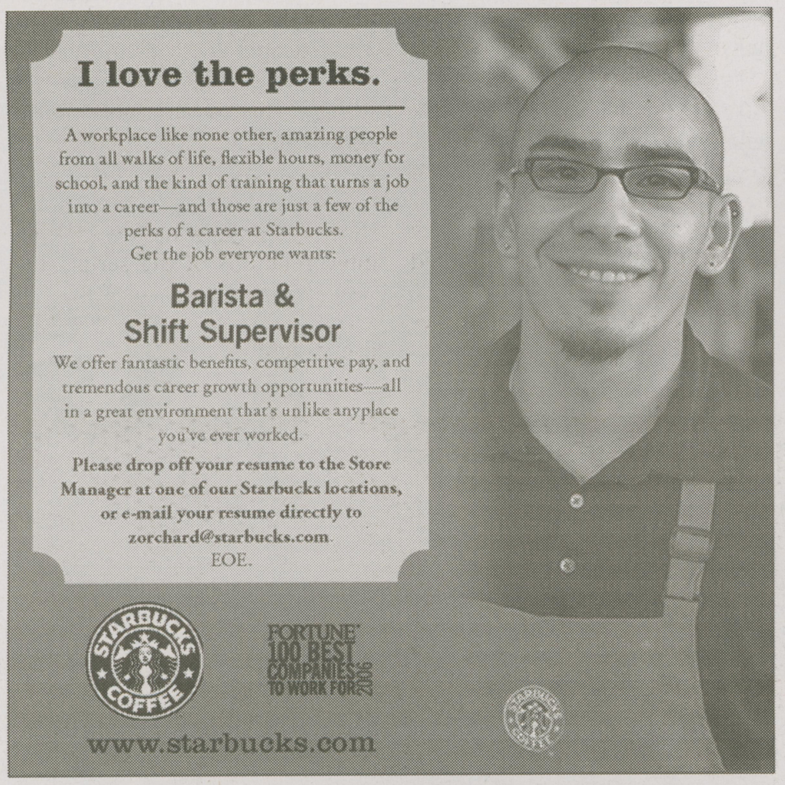
As the night trundles on, the three bands preceding MeatDraw do their best to win the crowd's affection. The hall, now three-quarters full of underage hipsters, is responsive and polite, but hardly enthused. Only when Marco and his gaggle of carnies walk on stage do they finally come to life, clapping and stomping to the beat as the baritone trumpet blasts out a chaotic melody.

And without even realizing it, I'm stomping right there along with them, thinking maybe this wasn't such a bad idea after all.



BENJAMIN MOORE PHOTO

MeatDraw's Marco Bozenich performs in Nanaimo.



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Fringe acts with a UVic touch

PROVIDED PHOTO

Meredith Grantier stars as a dominatrix in *Bullfrog Lullaby*.

by Steve Carey

The Victoria Fringe Theatre Festival has been showcasing independent, innovative and uncensored dance, drama and comedy works for 20 years. With multiple venues all within walking distance and a strong Fringer fan base, it's a favorite among emerging and established artists.

Here's a sampling of what current and former UVic students have been up to at Fringe.

Bullfrog Lullaby

Written by Raquel "Rocky" Mann
Directed by Kathleen Greenfield

Bullfrog Lullaby is an out-of-whack dialogue-driven comedy about the nature of the human animal. The rundown: Ella, an aging female taxidermist enlists a dominatrix, who reminds Ella of her abandoned daughter, because she feels the need to be punished for everything she's ever done wrong.

Director Kathleen Greenfield, a UVic theatre grad, and playwright Raquel Mann, who graduated from UVic's writing program, met at a friend's writing workshop. Mann appreciated the insight in Greenfield's feedback and approached her with the draft script for *Bullfrog Lullaby*. Their goal with this show was to bring as many people together who hadn't created or worked in theatre before, and they've put together a formidable show.

To classify this a play about "a taxidermist and a dominatrix" would be a lazy way of glossing over its often-confusing plots. The relationship between young man Rodney and aging taxidermist Ella, the bullfrog obsession that Ella has formed because of the abandonment of her daughter, the dominatrix's troubled past, and the subplot of whether or not the dom—played by UVic theatre student Meredith Grantier—is actually Ella's grown daughter all collide.

Sound confusing? The average Fringer had to pay attention not to miss out on tightly packed plot details. The live hick band often overpowered important dialogue, although the three-member group added depth and emotion to some scenes.

Kudos should go to the cast and crew for loading themselves onto pedicabs to promote their show, approaching Fringers at other venues with handbills and hillbillies to raise awareness of *Bullfrog Lullaby*.

Death of a Clown

Written by Sebastien Archibald
Directed by Chelsea Haberlin
Produced by ITSAZOO Productions

Roy is a clown: personally, professionally and when he looks in the mirror. He's loyal to a company that hates him, believes that every man should be free and doesn't see a problem when his white toys play with the coloured ones. Roy has been raised to fear and respect "the line"; the edge that separates conformity and docility from reasoning and tolerance. When Roy is driven to cross the line, his life and self are destroyed forever.

ITSAZOO Productions has been around for a little over three years, putting on notable shows such as *Alice In Wonderland* and Edward Albee's *The Zoo Story* around town. The UVic theatre students that form ITSAZOO, recently incorporated as a not-for-profit society, are dedicated to creating innovative and new Canadian theatre.

Death of a Clown, written by Sebastien Archibald, is an abstract humour piece. Archibald plays Roy, who can't catch a break. He's married, has a baby on the way, and gets paid peanuts, literally.

It was a change to see clowns in real world situations. Roy and his wife, played by Kate Richard, have to deal with continual downsizing at work, a possible abortion, the dilemma of selling out, and the final ID-destroying act of clown nose removal.

ITSAZOO employed fine actors. With a simple facial expression the actors are able to flip from one character to another. Colby Wilson plays a butch cowboy, an obsessed fan, an office workmate, a sad clown, and is a standout as a crooked cop. Gemma Levinson plays Roy's drunken mother, a whistling Scottish doctor and a sexy nerd. Kate Richard plays a lawyer, a cheerleader and Roy's clown wife, a role as serious as it is hilarious.

Death Of A Clown is long for a one act, clocking in at a full 90 minutes. There are sections of beat-the-audience-with-obvious-meaning.

But as a whole, this is an excellent play from a burgeoning theatre company, with the final resolution of the play staying with the audience long after the curtain call.

Monkey War Of Fire

Written and Directed by Russell Reilander

The monkey Kai Kai was forced to quit smoking. So was Art, a neurotic steak chef who's sleeping with his sexpot boss and not getting any from his girlfriend. When Art accidentally frees Kai Kai, the monkey goes on a poo-slinging murderous rampage for cigarettes ... with hilarious results.

Written by UVic writing graduate Russell Reilander, *The Monkey War of Fire* was performed as a staged reading at the 2006 Festival of Innovative and New Drama at UVic. Many things have changed since then; characters have been added, an ingenious Rubik's cube style set has been constructed, but one thing remains the same: actor Graham Newmarch still moves exactly like a nicotine-addicted monkey.

A kilt-wearing trombone player has also been added, playing sections from *The Godfather* theme and circus music to add a slapstick cartoon effect to the scenes.

It's a great situation comedy, with jokes coming from all angles.

With the chain-smoking Kai Kai, Reilander has created a fantastic character. And the monkey-on-your-back elements of addiction are present throughout the play.

When asked about his first time directing a play, Reilander said it was quite an experience, but he wouldn't want to try it again. He relied on the actors cast in the show to provide him with their interpretations of the script, and built in structured improv into the script so that the show was unique every night.

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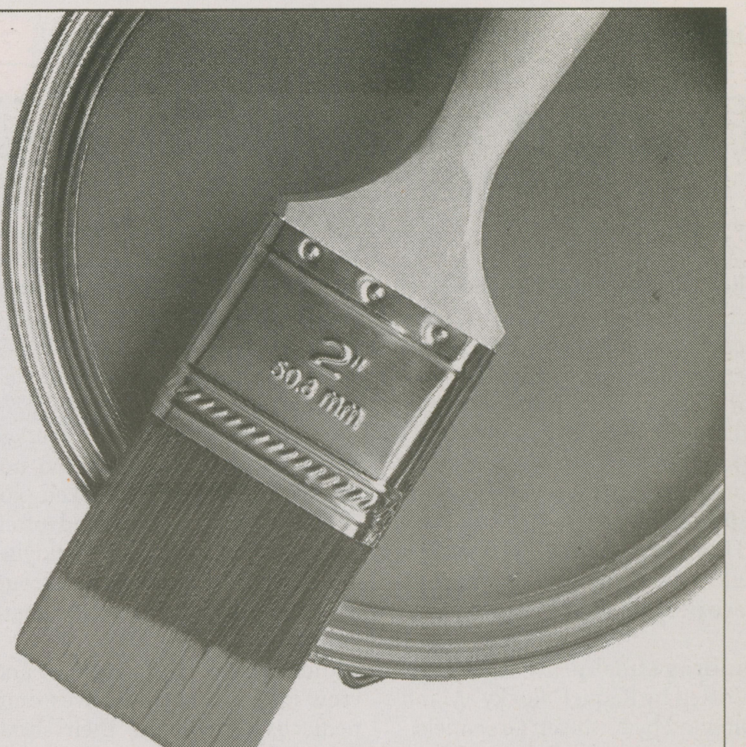

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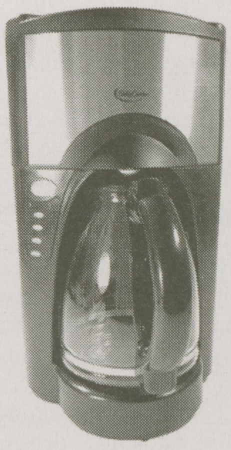

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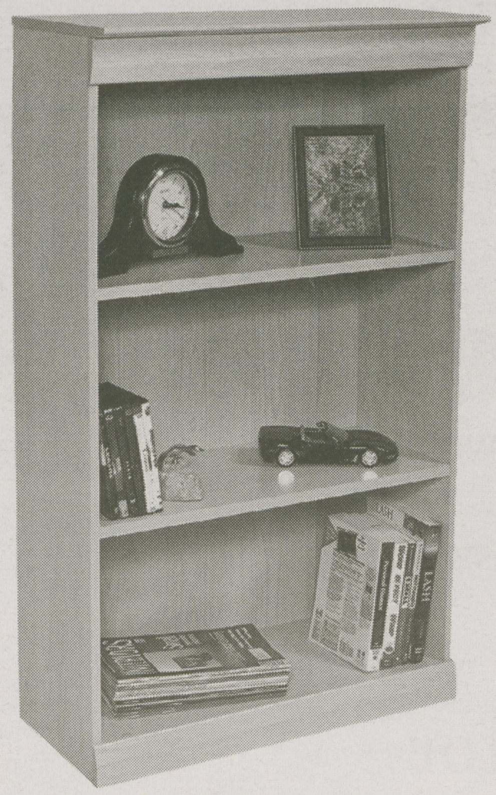

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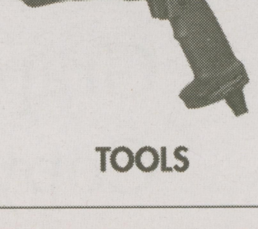

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Prey lures in players with impressive weapons and portal system

Despite some unfulfilled elements, the game comes highly recommended

by Ramin Ostad

EDMONTON (CUP) — Ten years ago, 3D Realms—the creators of the popular *Duke Nukem* franchise—announced an ambitious shooter entitled *Prey*, a game that followed the story of a Cherokee man who gets abducted by aliens.

At the time, it stunned the gaming community with its ingenious portal technology, boasting doorways that opened out of thin air and transported you to different parts of the map. Almost a decade later, *Prey* is finally upon us, and time has done wonders for it.

You play as Tommy, a Native American ex-military brat whose sole wish is to escape the reserve he and his girlfriend Jen live on. As he tries to convince her to leave with him—despite the wishes of his grandfather, who wants him to embrace his Native heritage—the three of them are abducted by aliens and must escape the alien sphere that is wreaking havoc on the earth.

The action unfolds around you in real time without any cut scenes, all the while following Tommy's perspective. His struggle is always kept pertinent by his comments on the situations surrounding him during play. Great voice work is also used all around, including an appearance by famed conspiracy nut Art Bell.

Prey's most unique features are its manipulation of gravity, and, of course, the portal system. The game toys with gravity in a couple different ways. Some rooms have switches that you can shoot, directing gravity towards whichever wall the switch is on, and others have catwalks that allow you to walk up walls, hang upside-down and disorient you in ways you wouldn't imagine.

And, just when you think you've gotten the hang of things, the game throws plenty of obstacles your way, forcing you to combine portal travelling, wall-walking and gravity flipping in order to make your way through the enemy alien ship.

These features also make for some intense multiplayer action, though the limited types of play—death match and team death match—make the multiplayer feel somewhat like an afterthought.

Both of the player modes fit nicely with the level design and general ambiance of the alien ship. The game makes effective use of the *Doom 3* engine to create eerily organic environments and some impressive graphical feats, combined with expansive outdoor settings that you traverse in a shuttle, reminiscent of the old *Descent* games.

Oddly enough, the gravity flipping very rarely feels contrived or out of place. However, the hallmark portal system is used somewhat ineffectively. Since the game has a linear level design, the portals are really nothing more than flashy doors—not to say they're unimpressive, but you get the feeling that they could have been a lot more interesting.

The organic design of the game's visuals also takes a hold of the weapons in *Prey*. Although they're used in the same way as any conventional shooter, almost every weapon in the game seems like it could have a mind of its own.

Your grenades, for example, are actually little insects that explode when you rip off one of their limbs. There's also a chain gun that's an alien arm, as well as a leech gun that drains energy from certain energy nodes that provide various types of ammunition.

The real beauty behind these weapons is that unlike most shooters, each weapon is only really effective against certain types of enemies, obliging you to think fast when there's more than one kind of enemy coming your way.

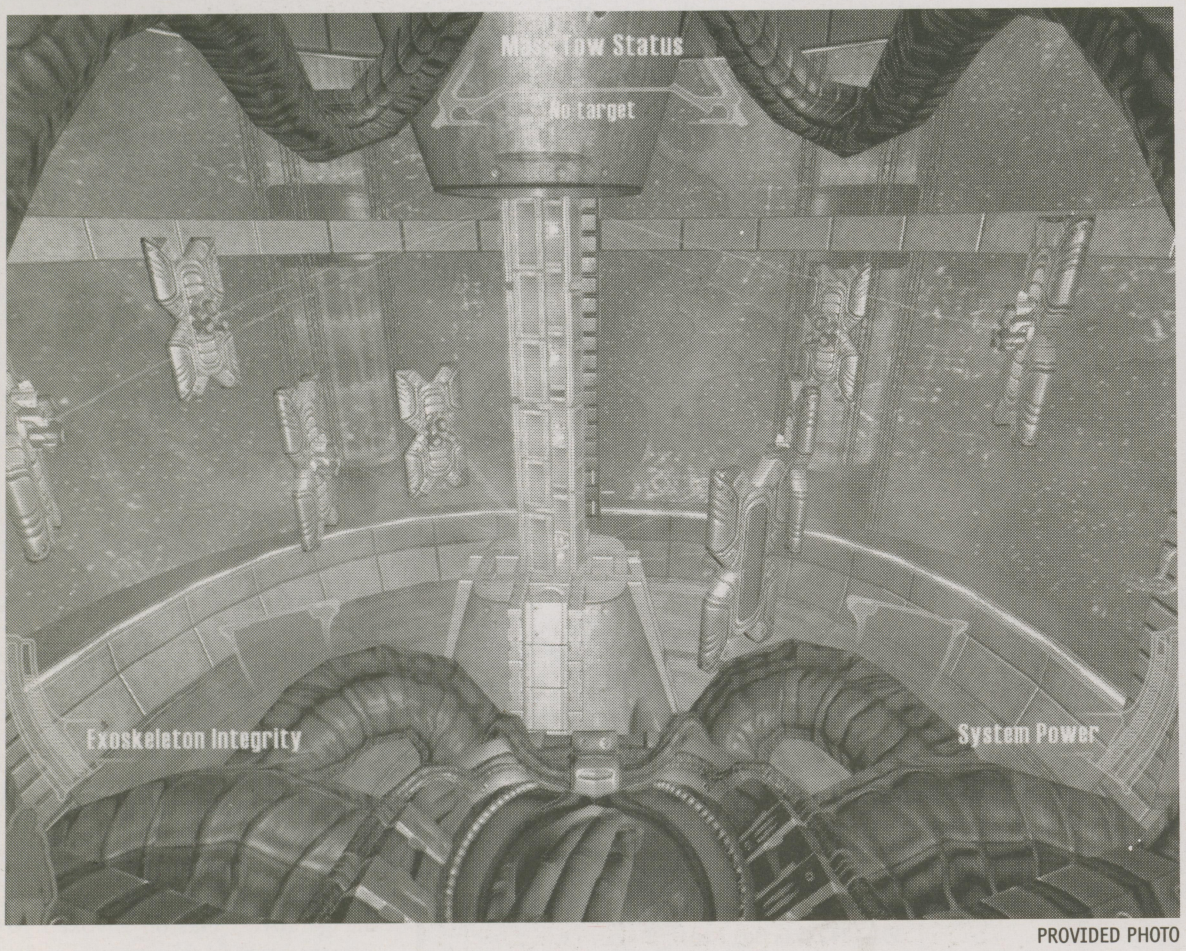
Being kept on your toes is good, since there's very little in the way of challenge in the game. While the action never really lets up during the game, the enemy AI isn't all that sharp. Some of your enemies will take cover or try to grenade you on occasion, but in general they all exploit the portal system to pop up anywhere and everywhere in large waves. Though it avoids the "monster closet" effect that *Doom 3* had, it often feels like the enemies just aren't strong enough—either that or you were trained in the military for alien hunting.

It also doesn't help that death is sort of a non-event in the game. Early on, Tommy is taught by his grandfather to "spirit walk"—to leave his body and travel as a spirit. This, like gravity flipping, is mostly used as a puzzle-solving device.

It also allows you to survive death, taking you to a spirit realm where you must shoot at red and blue wraiths to regain your health and spirit before you are transported right back to where you died.

This is all done seamlessly, but it also takes away much of the challenge. Death becomes more of an annoyance than any real threat.

Despite these gripes, *Prey* is still an entertaining game with some unique innovations, an immersing if not borrowed storyline—stick around after the credits roll—and plenty of action to keep you going. While there are certain elements that feel unfulfilled—like the use of portals, and the rather shallow use of Native American mysticism—*Prey* is a game I can easily recommend.



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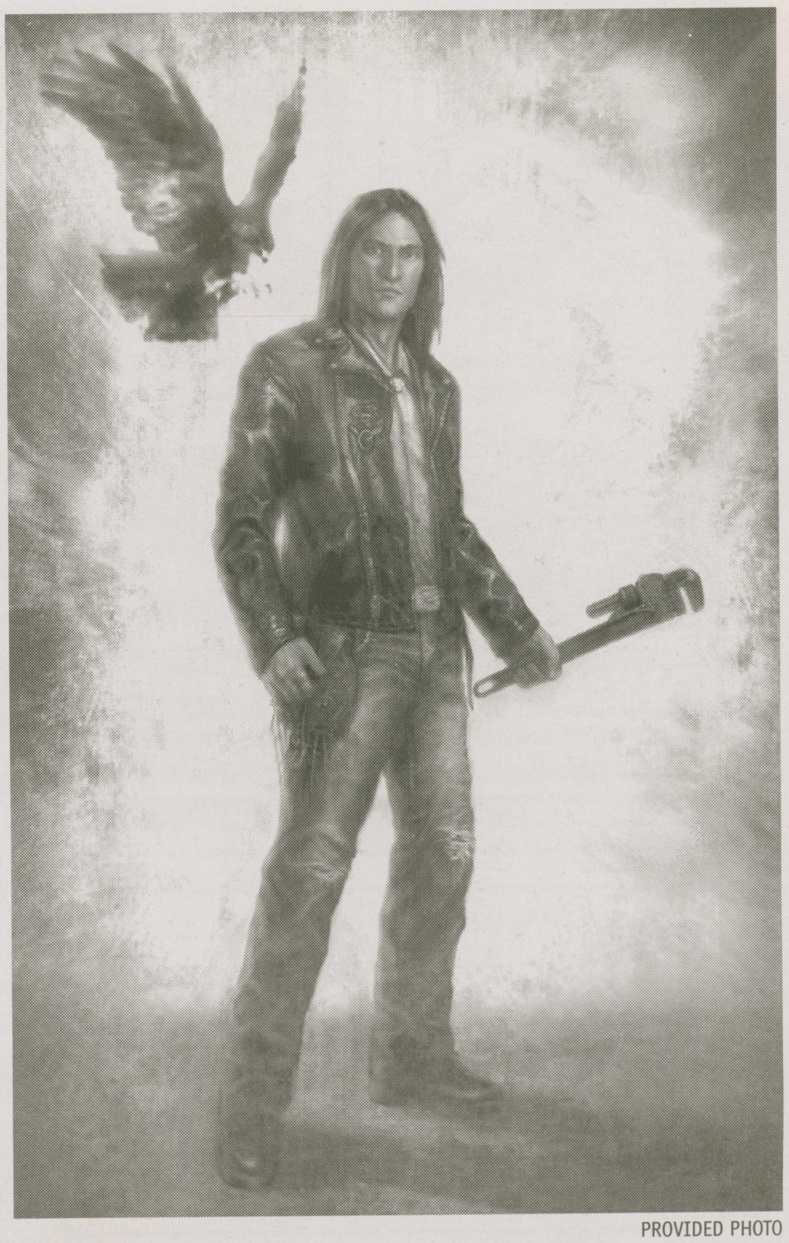
Using weapons, mystical abilities and handy portals, you must escape the alien sphere.



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In *Prey*, you play as Tommy, a Native American ex-military brat.

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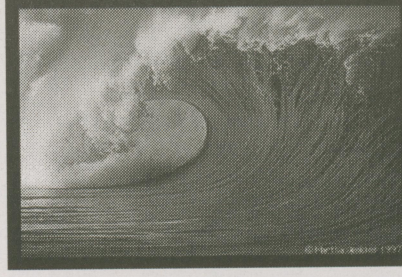

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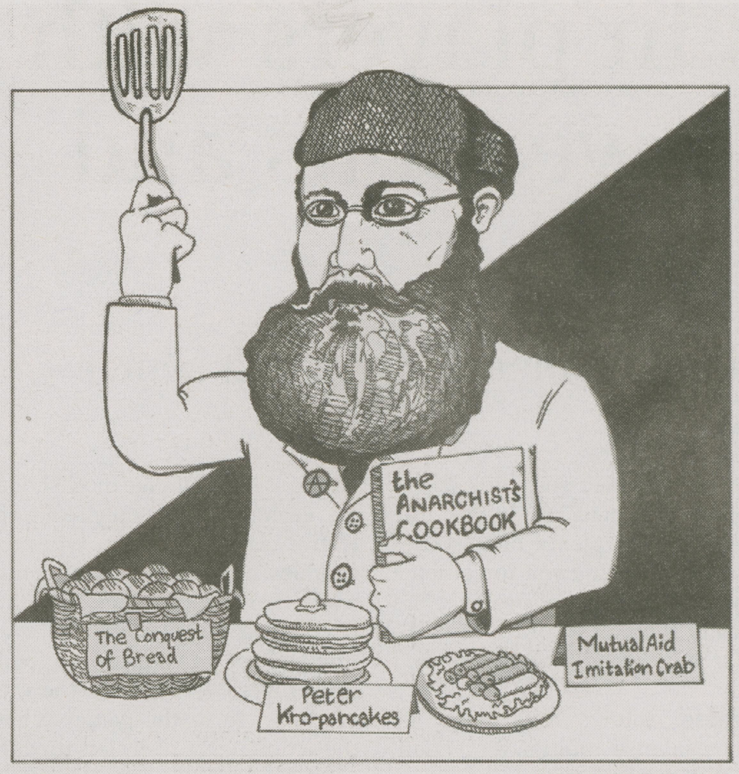

CHRIS SHEAFF GRAPHIC

Food, not war

Anarchist book fair raises money for Food Not Bombs

by Jessica Smith

A group of Victoria anarchists are holding a $0-per-plate fundraiser for the local Food Not Bombs chapter this weekend at the Downtown Community Activity Centre and Ocean Island Hostel, with free and by-donation anarchist workshops, films, music and slam poetry.

Food Not Bombs is an organization working against hunger and foreign occupation in the Middle East. It provides free vegetarian meals around the world and believes governments should provide nourishment rather than war. Victoria's chapter serves a five-course, mostly organic, vegan meal at Cook and Pandora every Sunday.

Food Not Bombs uses food that would otherwise be discarded and donated kitchen space, so it has a low operating budget.

Event organizer Comrade Fletcher isn't sure whether a lot of money will be made at the fair this weekend. But any funds that are raised will go towards a new bike cart and winter supplies that help keep the Food Not Bombs kitchens running when the local farms shut down.

Co-organizer Alex Murray said the event, which will include music, books, anarchist zines and films, is not about raising money, but "to raise awareness about anarchism, as well as bringing anarchists together and showing solidarity for anarchists." He said not just fellow anarchists, but anyone who's curious is welcome.

For people new to anarchist ideals or for those wanting a refresher, workshops will be held on topics such as union organizing, anarchist history, re-identifying the queer, de-schooling, and herbal medications and natural plants.

On Saturday, live music will be provided in-part by locals Snicker the Clown a.k.a. Lee Hamer, who plays children's music and "outlaw country," and Joey Only, who plays "outlaw folk," and whose run-ins with the law have had him temporarily banned from attended protests.

The fundraiser will also feature films by Andrew Ainsley, who made local news when he was arrested for filming a conflict between police and Dumpster divers in Cook Street Village last winter.

Expect a variety of more or less controversial views at the event along with a hint of proselytizing.

"The concept of anarchism is largely based on a set of ideals, no matter what type of anarchism you believe in: direct action, voluntary cooperation, mutual aid, to empower people to take responsibility upon themselves and step up and do things," said Fletcher. "Say the media is writing propaganda, let's get the real news out there by writing our own newspaper instead of waiting for someone else to do what we think is right, which may never happen."

According to Fletcher, Victoria used to be a hub for anarchists.

"This city has a rich, rich anarchist history," Fletcher said. "People all over B.C. would come all the way here for to go to anarchist gatherings and shows."

If this gathering a success, expect more anarchist events to come. Fletcher hopes this book fair is the first of many.

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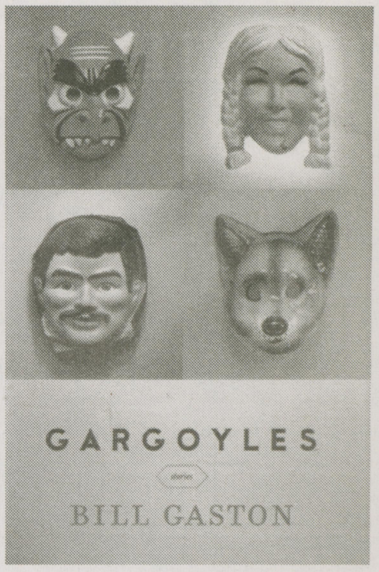


Bill Gaston
Gargoyles
House of Anansi Press

by Norman Baskerville

The experience of reading most collections of short stories, even by talented authors, is often akin to listening to the tracks of a talented musician's album—some songs will captivate your senses, while others will just occupy your time.

Bill Gaston's *Gargoyles* is a rarity. Each story is uniquely voiced and self-contained, yet belongs to the wider themes of the collection.

Gaston, the award-winning author and UVic professor of fiction, expertly crafted each tale within the book, embracing the theme of the gargoyle—the monstrous carved and sculpted creatures that fend off evil, terrify simple folk and act as water drains from Paris to Government Street.

Throughout *Gargoyles,* Gaston explores our universal desire to have something to protect us from the more monstrous and desperate incarnations of ourselves. We seek a guardian to shield us from the parts of ourselves we aren't proud to own. These are the aspects of our own natures that have resulted in stories that are too shameful to tell anecdotally at a party, the kind you only reveal to your most trusted confidant or never at all.

In some of Gaston's stories, the notion of the gargoyle is subtle, expressed only though the grotesque, twisted thoughts and actions of the characters, such as the nasty children in "The Green House" who welcome their foreign neighbour with cruel trickery. In other stories the image of the gargoyle is overt, holding influence over the plight of the characters. This is exemplified in the story titled "Gargoyles" where the protagonist's demented father vainly relies on the ugly protectors to ward off his evil spirits rather than facing them himself.

Gargoyles are creatures of the imagination and no two share exactly the same features. As Gaston wrote each story, he sketched out a distinct gargoyle to protect it.

Crafting a group of stories on the idea of the gargoyle as a symbolic and concrete representation of the extremes of human emotion and experience would be a heavy-handed contrivance in a lesser writer's hand, but Gaston's execution is without gimmicks.

With a remarkable breadth of imagination and a great deal of wit, Gaston's brings depth and realism to the characters he has created, to make this collection an intriguing and entertaining read. It seems the gargoyles Gaston invoked to oversee his stories were successful in their work.

EVENT PREVIEWS | HIP HOP, BEER, MORE BEER AND ANTHROPOLOGY

De La Soul at Open Air

On Saturday, Sept. 9 in Centennial Square, hip hop group De La Soul will be performing as part of the latest outdoor shows in the Open Air concert series, which has hosted acts this year such as Feist, City and Colour and Great Big Sea.

De La Soul is made up of three guys from Long Island, New York: David Jude Jolicoeur, Kevin Mercer and Vincent Mason. Respectively nicknamed: Trugoy the Dove, Posdnuos and P.A. Pasemaster Mase.

The group was discovered by producer Prince Paul, and released their debut album *3 Feet High and Rising* in 1989, which earned them a Best Rap Group Grammy nomination. The groundbreaking album sounded like no other before it and became known as the future of hip hop due to the group's influences of funk, soul, reggae, pop and jazz.

Since their first album, De La Soul has released seven others and after 17 years they still have the passion that made them one of the most influential bands to come out of the East Coast music scene.

Tickets are on sale now for $27.00 at the McPherson Box office by phone (386-6121).

Chelsea Bowen

EarthFest 2006

Where else can you drink a cold beer while supporting a more sustainable lifestyle that helps the hearth? Only at Earthfest 2006.

The UVic Sustainability Project and the UVic Student Society are celebrating EarthFest: A Tribute to Slower Living in Victoria on Friday, Sept. 8 as a way to encourage students to volunteer in their community and become ecologically minded.

The event is going to be bigger than years past, with the main events being campus tours, a beer garden, and demonstrations by Moksana Yoga and the Yoga Shala.

There are also some interactive displays that will showcase ideas and ways to live a more sustainable life in Victoria.

A wild animal rehabilitation centre and a swan lake nature sanctuary are set up for children to explore.

There will also be lots of vendors from across Victoria, including Hemp and Company and Fibre Options.

Check it all out from 9 to 3 p.m. in front of McPherson Library and the SUB. It just might be your first day of a slower way of living in Victoria.

Chelsea Bowen

Great Canadian Beer Festival

If you're looking to find a new favourite drink, the Great Canadian Beer Festival is for you. The event takes place at Royal Athletic Park Sept. 8 and 9 and features beer from over 40 breweries in western Canada and the northwestern United States.

Beers include the XXXXX Stout from the Pike Pub and Brewery in Seattle and Steamworks' great pumpkin ale, made with pumpkins and spiced with a blend of ginger, nutmeg and cinnamon. This is a chance to try some of the most popular and newest concoctions from Tickets range from $20 to $25 and beer tasting ranges from $1.25 to $2.50 per beer. A transit ticket for the trip home is included with your admission and a free shuttle will also run downtown to the Bay Centre.

David Karp

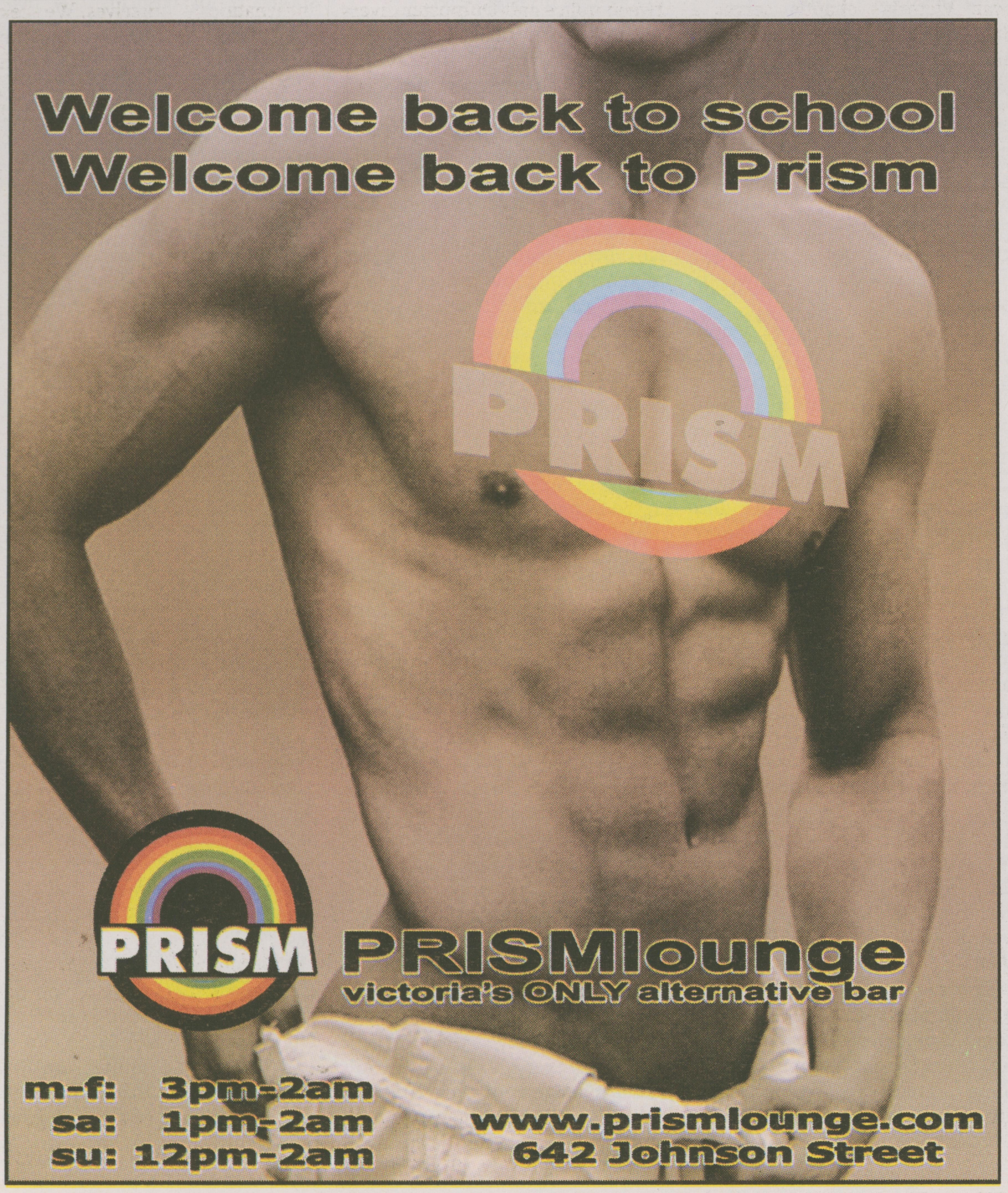
How we become humans

UVic anthropology professor Nicolas Rolland, on behalf of Victoria Secular Humanists, will give a free lecture entitled "How We Became Humans" on Sunday, Sept. 10 at Swan's Collard Room at 506 Pandora Street.

Speaking from an evolutionary perspective, Rolland will consider how the human species fits into the primate taxonomy (broad categories of species) as a result of our natural history. He will also consider other popular hypotheses over the past two centuries, and his work towards development of a coherent framework to better understand our species as special but not all together unique. Rolland will touch on the importance of bio-cultural evolution and cultural history in making us who we are today.

Rolland received his PhD in anthropology from University of Montreal. Among his many major research interests are human evolution and culture history.

Sam VanSchie



CFUV 101.9 FM

CFUV is the University of Victoria's Campus/Community Radio Station. To find out more information about CFUV, including our programming schedule, volunteer information and complete charts, please visit our website at www.cfuv.uvic.ca.

Campus/Community Radio 101.9 FM

TOP THIRTY

FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 4

* means Canadian artist. † means local artist.

1. THE DUHKS *
   Migrations (Sugar Hill)
2. SOUNDTRACK *
   Leonard Cohen: I'm Your Man (Verve Forecast)
3. ANDRE ETHIER *
   Secondathallam (Paper Bag)
4. MEATDRAW †
   Meatdraw (Self Righteous)
5. DAEDELUS
   Denies The Day's Demise (Mush)
6. SHOUT OUT OUT OUT OUT! *
   Not Saying, Just Saying (Normals Welcome)
7. BARLEY WIK †
   Beyond The Dawn (Pacific Music)
8. CITADEL †
   Citadel (Independent)
9. THE WAILIN' JENNYS *
   Firecracker (Jericho Beach)
10. THE HIDDEN CAMERAS *
    Awoo (Evil Evil)
11. VARIOUS *
    Classic Canadian Songs (Smithsonian Folkways)
12. BOB WISEMAN *
    Theme and Variations (Blocks Recording Club)
13. YO LA TENGO
    I Am Not Afraid Of You and I Will Beat Your Ass (Matador)
14. MY BRIGHTEST DIAMOND
    Bring Me The Workhorse (Asthmatic Kitty)
15. M. WARD
    Post-War (Merge)
16. ESPERS
    II (Drag City)
17. COMETS ON FIRE
    Avatar (Sub Pop)
18. CUT CHEMIST
    The Audience's Listening (Warner Bros.)
19. RHYMEFEST
    Blue Collar (J)
20. MAYOR MATT ALLEN & HIS LITTLE BUDDIES *
    The Life and Times of Christian Banks (Dollartone)
21. BRIGHTBLACK MORNING LIGHT
    Brightblack Morning Light (Matador)
22. FRESH MAGGOTS
    Hatched (Sunbeam)
23. TUJIKO NORIKO
    Shojo Toshi [reissue] (Mego)
24. JUNIOR BOYS *
    In The Morning EP (Domino)
25. AMMONCONTACT
    With Voices (Ninja Tune)
26. JIM BYRNES *
    House Of Refuge (Black Hen)
27. THE SADIES *
    In Concert Volume One (Outside)
28. WOODEN WAND & THE SKY HIGH BAND
    Second Attention (Kill Rock Stars)
29. LAMBCHOP
    Damaged (Merge)
30. PAJO
    1968 (Drag City)

Hear the weekly top ten on Charts and Graphs every Thursday at 3:00 PM on CFUV 101.9FM.

PHOTO COURTESY OF INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

Refocusing Disaster Management

When our Western method of handling emergencies doesn't work

by Anna Czolpinski

After the end of the 1999 conflict in Kosovo, numerous humanitarian aid agencies arrived to help with the aftermath of the war, bringing with them relief goods such as water, food and blankets. Eventually the need subsided, yet free goods continued to flow into the country and soon enough started to undermine the local economy. Huge sacks of flour that had "American Red Cross" written on them went up for sale on the black market, making locally produced goods relatively expensive. UN vehicle drivers were earning more than medical doctors from Kosovo.

For a number of years, relief efforts have taken a top-down approach that has involved the affected population only as recipients of help. Once a disaster occurs, the federal government and humanitarian aid agencies arrive, assess the situation and co-ordinate a response. Although this approach works to feed people, provide clean water, shelter and basic medical care, it creates a number of problems. The response was often slow and frequently ignored some of the vulnerable parties, and resulted in a population dependent on external aid.

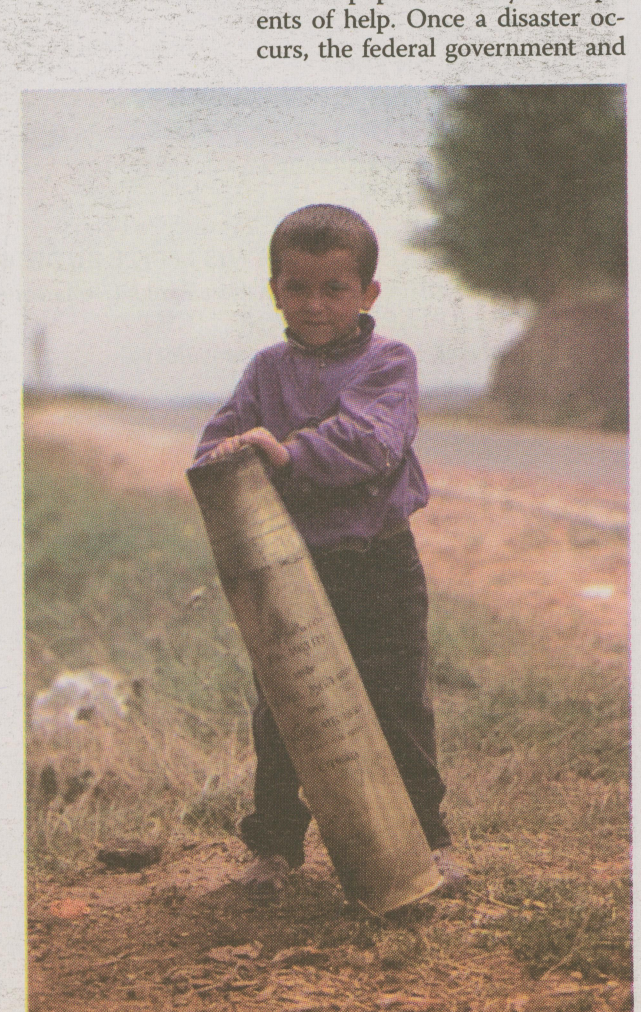


PHOTO COURTESY OF INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

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Community resiliency is an alternative approach to disaster management, which, rather than giving all control to humanitarian organizations and governments, the problem is dealt at a local grassroots level. Yet, in our large, modern cities, do we know our neighbours?

"The answer is that most people don't," says Will Matthews, the manager of disaster preparedness for the Community Resiliency Programme for the Western zone of the Canadian Red Cross.

"When disaster strikes, people do not have the experience and strength that comes from being a part of a community." Instead of relying on our families, friends and neighbours when we are in trouble, we have learned to rely on official systems such as government-mandated agencies, national militaries, insurance companies and large aid agencies. Rather than allowing the public to rely solely on official systems for disaster relief, a community based approach gives people in the community the responsibility of knowing and understanding the types of emergencies they might face and, to an extent possible, be prepared to meet them.

Over the past 10 years the term "community resiliency" has become a buzzword in the disaster management community. In theory, it has been accepted as an alternative, or at least a necessary complement, to the traditional top-down approach by various organizations, such as the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the World Health Organization and the Canadian International Development Agency. It has been incorporated into the conferences, mission statements and guiding principles of many organizations involved in disaster relief.

But while community resiliency seems to be the new trend in disaster management circles, it is not a new idea.

"The concept of community resiliency is as old as man," says Matthews. It is how humans have always responded to hardships and disasters. "All sorts of new articles have been written about community resiliency, but none of it is new ... we are re-learning something that we should have known from a long time ago."

Paul Jenkins, the operations coordinator for Disaster Services for the B.C. Coastal Region Canadian Red Cross, agrees. He worked for 31 years as a military police officer in the Canadian Forces, serving in both Canada and overseas.

"Community Resiliency is a new word, but it is not a new concept," he says. "My folks lived in England during the blitz and they exhibited a tremendous amount of resilience living in air raid shelters. They learned to become very self-reliant," says Jenkins. "Disasters often cause people to get out of their ruts. It is often the case that people's spirits are quite high and the important things in life become quite obvious, [people] get a grip on things and move on, they become a community."

Community resiliency demands the involvement of the community affected by a disaster in its own recovery.

"Optimally they would be involved in every stage of the disaster management cycle [mitigation, assessment, preparation and recovery]," says Matthews. Not only does this approach provide more reliable information, but it also establishes an acceptance of responsibility for the recovery effort. Matthews, who is a psychologist by training, likens this to our relationship with health care. We must recognize that there is only so much that a physician can do for us and that we alone are responsible for ensuring our personal health.

When Matthews visited post-war Kosovo, local children came forward to say that they wanted to help the community so they would have places to play. The Canadian Military came in with shovels, rakes, front loaders and dump trucks and together with 200 local children they cleaned up the village.

"Instead of working at the community, they were working with the community," says Matthews. "It is that kind of experience where people recover ... although they have gone through a terrible experience, they can still function."

***

A disaster response must include an assessment of the strengths and capacities of people affected, and facilitate their actions to help themselves recover. According to the traditional top-down approach to disaster management, when a disaster strikes the first step is to perform an assessment of the needs of the affected community. But, the strengths and skills of the local people are ignored. Just because they have been hit by a disaster does not mean that they have lost their skills and capabilities.

In December of 2003, a massive earthquake, measuring 6.7 on the Richter scale, hit southern Iran. The epicentre was Bam, a city of 80,000, with an additional 200,000 people in the surrounding area. Over 70 per cent of the houses in Bam were destroyed and electricity

PHOTO COURTESY OF INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

and telephone services were eliminated. Two hospitals collapsed as a result of the earthquake, leaving the remaining ones struggling to help the thousands injured. In the middle of all of this, however, the BBC reported that a huge local relief operation was in place within minutes.

Ordinary Iranians, the army, volunteer groups and local rescue teams were deployed within minutes of the disaster and began digging survivors out from underneath the rubble, saving thousands of lives. According to the Red Cross, within two days, 34 international search and rescue teams had flown in with dozens of sniffer dogs, saving only 22 people. Thirty thousand people died as a result of the earthquake and an additional 30,000 were injured. However, if people were to rely solely on international rescue teams instead of themselves and each other in the time of a disaster, many more lives would have been lost. During sudden disasters where every second counts, well prepared local teams can potentially save more lives than international rescuers simply because of a faster response time and knowledge of local terrain. Because of this, the money from large international aid organizations is better spent on building the capabilities of local people, by committing more resources, training and equipment to disaster prone areas before disaster strikes, rather than funding huge international search and rescue teams to be dispatched all over the world.

In the summer of 2003 a heat wave hit Europe in which an estimated 22,000 and 35,000 people died. In France the heat mainly affected those over 75 years of age, who accounted for 70 per cent of the 14,802 deaths in that country. Most deaths occurred within isolated elderly populations, which were disproportionately invisible to aid workers. Several French officials blamed the disaster on global warming and unpredictable weather conditions, while national health professionals believed that the problem could be attributed less to the heat and more to an elderly care system in crisis. They pointed to the fact that most of the elderly population lived in isolation and had little regular contact with their communities. While the elderly are very vulnerable to extreme temperatures, better preparedness, such as community contacts and information networks, can make up for individual vulnerability.

For the past 29 years, Oak Bay Volunteer Services has been providing a service called "Good Morning Calls," where volunteers call people in the community every morning to check in on them and remind them to take their medication. The people called are primarily seniors, but also include people with disabilities or chronic health issues.

"If you are calling someone every day, you are more aware of subtle changes," says Cathie Ballard, the Office Coordinator of Oak Bay Volunteer Services. You may realize that a person has had a mild stroke and be able to get in touch with the emergency contacts that they provided or their physicians. While this system is not designed as a disaster service, the model can be very useful in the event of a disaster.

***

So often we go into situations and assess things though our Western lens, but rather than helping, we end up causing harm. As a relief agency, if you want to help a community that you consider to be vulnerable, asking the local people what they need should be the first step because their response and needs may not be obvious.

Part of the Canadian Red Cross response to the May 2003 earthquake in Indonesia was to approach local communities with resiliency principles. Instead of automatically assuming that destroyed houses should be rebuilt first, aid workers approached individual communities and asked them what they needed help with—their priority was to rebuild the Messalhas, a traditional place for communities to gather, pray and discuss issues. They believed that once the Messalhas were rebuilt, they would be able to take over the reconstruction from there.

"This is a perfect example of a place with a strong sense of community and us as a wealthy aid organization coming in to strengthen that sense of community even further," says Matthews.

The affected population should be treated as partners in the recovery process, not as victims. "It is true that we"—Westerners—"have the capacity to mobilize huge amounts of resources, and this is good," says Matthews. "But what is bad is when we undermine the local community in the process." Matthews believes that in the West we indulge in being victims and expect others to come to our rescue. When Western aid agencies come to help in disaster or conflict situation they use the same victim approach. Many aid agencies come in with their Western ideas about psychology and tell people that it will take them years to recover. But if you tell people that it will take them years to recover, then you set up that expectation—when in fact people are quite resilient in times of disaster.

"When people are active and productive you cannot put the label of post traumatic stress disorder on them," says Matthews. "This is a medicalized approach to dealing with the problem."

***

It has been found that educating people about how to respond to potential disasters with seminars and the distribution of brochures does not work. It turns out that the events that lead to crises are typically those which people have trouble taking seriously, events with a low probability, but a high cost. Instead of preparing for them, they ignore them. It has been found that people will only be active towards something that they feel is pertinent to them in their present lives. A potential disaster, that may or may not ever happen, is not perceived as all that pertinent.

Lise Anne Pierce, the co-ordinator of disaster services for the B.C. coastal region Canadian Red Cross, echoes the belief that a strong community is essential to a quick and sustainable recovery.

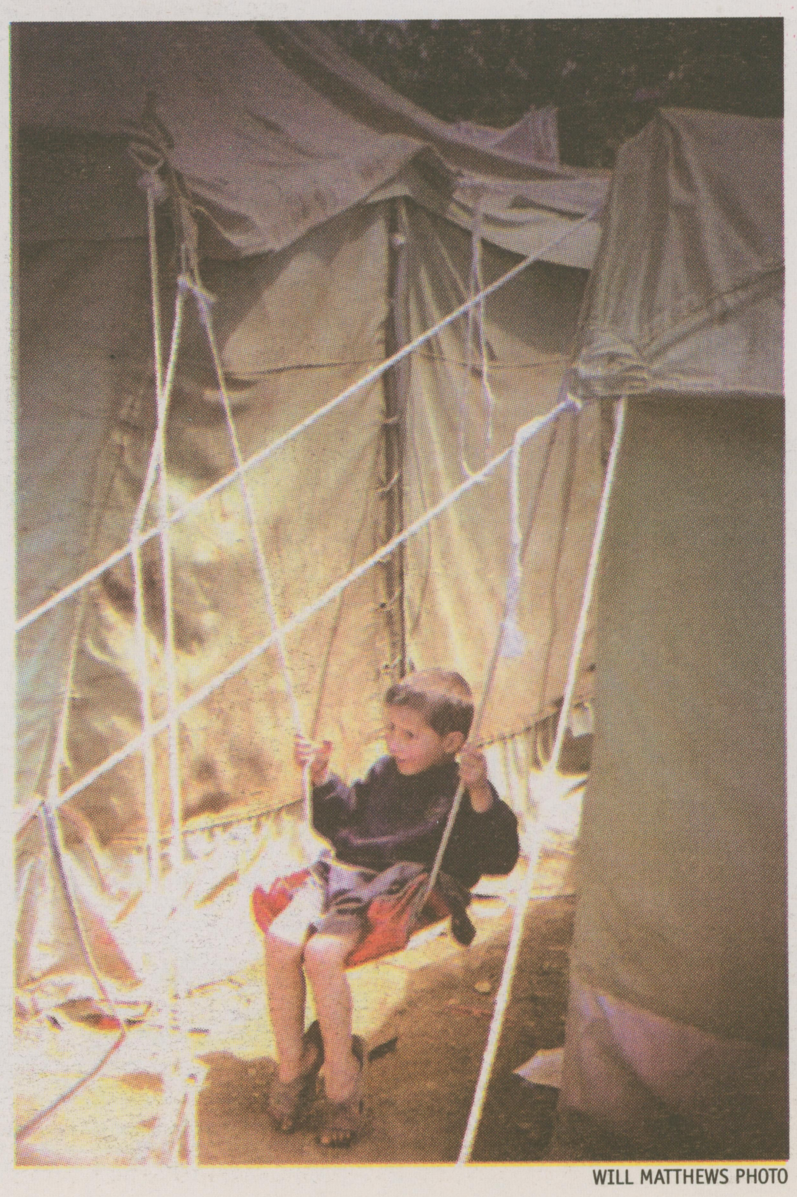
"The key to success is to do the work ahead of time, [and that means] having a strong community." Pierce says that the response to the 2004 tsunami in Southeast Asia was tremendous; everybody went out and helped.

"The tsunami affected many small communities [that were] used to being self-sufficient," she says.

Practice, and lately there's been plenty of it, has not proven perfect. Over the years the mobilization of resources to respond to all forms of emergencies and disasters has included a process of learning. The question is: Have we applied this learning resulting in more effective relief and recovery efforts? The frustration and chaos of the Katrina experience would lead us to believe that there is much work to be done to incorporate our lessons into practical response.

Kimberly Nemrava, director of B.C. disaster management at the Red Cross, says there is a very important place for traditional disaster response capacity, and the idea is not to try to do away with it.

"We just need to incorporate the principles of community resiliency sooner and with more energy," she says. The traditional disaster management methods are important and useful, but we must watch out when our systems unintentionally cause harm and stop people from using their own abilities in the recovery.



WILL MATTHEWS PHOTO

Middleton stands alone

The musician releases his latest solo album

MATT POPE PHOTO

Now solo, Jon Middleton performs at Steamers.

Jon Middleton
After a Trip
Jonmiddletonmuzak

by Steve Carey

Returning home from a long trip, travelling through the countryside, walking on the wooden porch outside your childhood home: these are the images of Jon Middleton's solo release *After A Trip*.

Middleton's slow style is embedded with elements of introspective, home-brewed folk and gritty, rolling reggae. His voice is soulful and thick, sticky like tarpaper.

Middleton, along with Victoria band Current Swell, was booked to open for The Beautiful Girls at Open Air in Centennial Square on August 26. They were supposed to play at 6 p.m. The only problem was they were in Edmonton, Alberta, wrapping up a tour.

The plan was to play in Victoria, then relax for a week before heading back out on a month-long cross-Canada tour. Not unreasonable, really. After all, it's only a 16-hour burn from Edmonton to Victoria and they had a big old tour van.

But, that was not to be.

Sixty kilometres outside of Kamloops, the van filled with smoke and started dumping transmission fluid. They hobbled another 20 kilometres, but needed to call a tow truck to get to a mechanic.

"We were pretty choked ... we thought the van was done for," said Middleton the day after his return to Victoria.

Growing up in Shawnigan Lake, Middleton began playing his dad's acoustic guitar at 12. He developed songwriting skills in high school punk bands, getting back into acoustic guitar when he was first enrolled at UVic. Middleton and friends played at open mic nights, mostly at Steamers Pub and Felicita's, and began developing a dedicated following.

"Most of the time a song starts just by playing around on my guitar," said Middleton, who is on a cross-Canada tour with Current Swell until October. Electric isn't his style; he plays a Larrivée acoustic guitar.

He's got a clean and simple style, without a lot of noise going on in the background. Although he's not a big guy, Middleton has something a lot of folk singers don't have: presence.

"Some of the songs, lyrically, are hip hop inspired," Middleton said. He tried to take elements of his influences (groups like Mobb Deep, A Tribe Called Quest and even Elliot Smith) and include them in his music.

Middleton's previous group, Jon and Roy, played to sold out shows at Steamers and Lucky Bar. Their independently released CD sold 700 copies in five months.

Travelling to Australia was hard on Jon and Roy; they only got a few gigs before parting.

Middleton set to work writing upon his return to Victoria and finished his album *After a Trip*, of which he sells about 15 to 20 a week, this March. Similarities can be drawn between Middleton's music and the relaxed acoustic stylings of Jack Johnson, Bob Dylan or Dave Matthews.

After a Trip was recorded in 120 hours by Stephen Franke at Blue Heron Studios. The quality is great for an independent recording. Middleton's string scratches and harp are picked up, and make you excited to hear his live shows. His next gig in Victoria is on October 21 at Steamers Pub, but when he's not touring he tries to do a show every weekend.

"It helps that I'm on my own," said Middleton. "It's easier to sustain myself."

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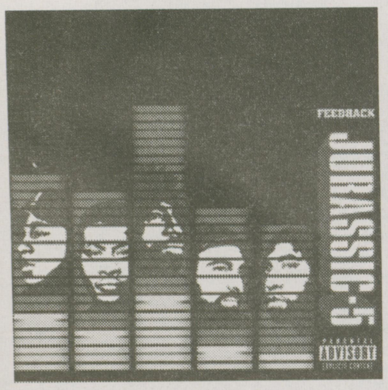

by Laurie Graham

Jurassic 5
Feedback
Interscope

We've heard it before: a group loses one of its members, and things aren't the same again. In the case of old school/alternative hip hop unit Jurassic 5, the one mind out of the mix is producer/DJ Cut Chemist, who recently departed the group to pursue a solo career. So, have things changed, you ask, on their latest album, *Feedback*? And if they have, is it for the better or not? It all depends on how you react to change.

First, just skip right over "Work It Out," featuring the Dave Matthews Band, as well as "Brown Girl (Suga Plum)," featuring Brick & Lace. They've been scoured to a radio-friendly sheen for some reason, and thinking about that too much will only make you sad.

J5's skill is still fully there, though. Of particular note is Chali 2na's low drone and his lyrical concoctions that consistently verge on incendiary. And rapper Zaakir, a.k.a. Soup, can rap about dangling modifiers (or going to class, making his bed), and still sound not only hot, but calmly profound.

They're still keeping to the traditions of rap and hip hop, but they're doing it without Cut Chemist, the guy who always added the wacky samples that aided in distinguishing the J5 sound. Ah change, you frustrating bastard, what to make of you?

by Marco Ursi

The Dears
Gang of Losers
Maple Music

The Dears have never made any pretenses about being unpretentious. The first time I saw them perform, lead singer Murray Lightburn wore a black t-shirt with the words "Art Rock" printed across the chest. He didn't smile once and neither did anyone in the band, which included a cello player. The band's first full-length album, *End of a Hollywood Bedtime Story*, included song titles such as "This is a Broadcast," and drew comparisons to Morrissey, Blur and Joy Division. Lightburn was credited as "director" of the follow-up, *No Cities Left*, an overproduced, overlong and oppressive work that is difficult to listen to in one sitting.

These days, Lightburn wears all-white suits in concert, the band no longer has a cello player and dread and despair have been replaced with cautious hope and joy. While *No Cities Left* was choked with cynicism ("I can't believe the things you say. Tell me the lies,") and pessimism ("It won't ever be what we want."), *Gang of Losers* finds comfort in community ("Nobody wants. But we want you."), and the shared experience of being alone in the world ("You and I on the outside of almost everything. We've got the same heart.") In other words, more Kierkegaard, less Nietzsche.

But its how this philosophical shift plays out musically that makes *Gang of Losers* the pinnacle of The Dears 11-year career and one of the best of albums of the year. These 12 songs shimmer under "doo doo doo" backing vocals, shaking tambourines, warm keyboards and driving rhythms. Lightburn and Co. do embrace their prog-rock tendencies with tricky time signatures, shredding guitars and the occasional lift from Rick Wakeman's synthesizer handbook, but their playing is lean and focused. The rousing codas would do fellow Montrealers The Arcade Fire proud and Lightburn's limber and powerful voice conveys humanity, empathy and passion throughout the album.

by Jessica Smith

A Fire Inside
Decemberunderground
Interscope Records

A Fire Inside used to be so sophisticated.

As a teenager in mid-'90s garage band you covered "God Called in Sick Today" and pretended to know what "omnipotence nurturing malevolence" meant when you screamed it into the mic and gushed about how deep it was. You had to look up "filigree" in the dictionary.

Since you've matured out of your awkward years and expanded your vocabulary, A.F.I. isn't as awe-inspiring or crucial as it once was. So why do you still like it?

A.F.I.'s newest album *Decemberunderground* is still cringingly angsty, but so overproduced that it's lost its edge, and they haven't written nonsense lyrics worth screaming since 1995. But if you can hear anything through the synthesizers you'll notice they have the same blaring energy that they borrowed from the Misfits when they started as a cover band.

In their new single "Miss Murder," A.F.I. asks, "Can I make beauty stay if I take my life?" Aging versus beauty is a theme that runs throughout the album. I don't endorse suicide, but if you listen to *Decemberunderground* you can revisit the beauty of your angst-ridden innocence for the duration of the album, and that's why you might like it.

Ablum
by Duplex!

by Amy Geddes

Duplex!
Ablum
Mint Records

Aaaah to be a kid again. *Ablum*, the debut album from Vancouver's latest pre-teen sensation Duplex! performed by a three-year-old, an 11-year-old, a 12-year-old and a handful of parents is primarily an album for kids. But adult listeners should never underestimate the Zen-like power of listening to the repetitive lyrics of "Pooing and Peeing," "Salad Song" and "Lament of the House Rabbit." Absorbing yourself in 34.6 minutes of kid-simple cares will quickly erase any stress you have accumulated this week while lining up to buy textbooks or sorting out last-minute timetable conflicts. *Ablum* is best taken in a single dose, at the pinnacle moment of stress, after sliding into your favourite pair of themed pyjamas.

The reason this album works for adult listeners is the songs are upbeat and catchy; they stick in your head for the next few days, but in a good way. It washes over you with that feeling like you're riding your bike with no hands, swallowed up by big open sky without a care in the world. The music is ska-flavoured and each of the eight artists plays his or her own suite of instruments that range from the simple sounds of nose trumpet, tambourine and maracas to the more sophisticated mandolin and tenor guitar. So it's always a surprise to hear the combination of voice harmony and instrument medley that will pop up on the next track.

Another bonus is the music is home grown; it comes fresh from The Hive in Vancouver. Mint Records scooped up this album and you should too, but only if you have a niece, nephew or some other kid to pass it on to after your exquisite 34.6 minute rendezvous with your inner child.

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PROVIDED PHOTO

B.u.m.p. shouts out raw honesty

by Rebeca Kuropatwa

WINNIPEG (CUP) — The rock music industry is an aggressive, mosh-pitted, guitar- and drum-driven world. Female rockers are not yet a mainstay in the industry, but some are making their mark through sheer talent and fan demand.

One such Winnipeg-based, female-led rock band is doing just that. B.u.m.p. singer, songwriter and keyboard player is the sexy, charismatic rock diva, Jewls Dengl. Dengl has the explosiveness of Joan Jett and the smooth savvy of Sheryl Crow. Her songs shout out a mix of raw honesty and sensuality, spinning the world on its head en route to an entirely innovative sound.

The band's sound is classic hard rock with a funky modern frame and a decidedly subversive edge, a melt-in-your-mouth meeting of Marianne Faithful and Green Day.

"I've been compared to other female singers," says Dengl, "such as Patti Smith, Concrete Blonde, Garbage and Bif Naked. Who I am compared to depends on what genre you listen to. I don't think we can be pigeonholed into a specific genre."

When b.u.m.p first formed in 2000, the meaning behind their name was a mystery that fans sought to crack. Discovering what b.u.m.p. meant turned into a sort of a game, in which fans would e-mail the band with their guesses. At long last Dengl disclosed that there is no intended meaning behind the acronym. She candidly explained that she simply "likes the dots."

Dave Choquette is the band's guitar player and back-up vocalist, Mike Belandiuk plays bass and John Huver plays the drums.

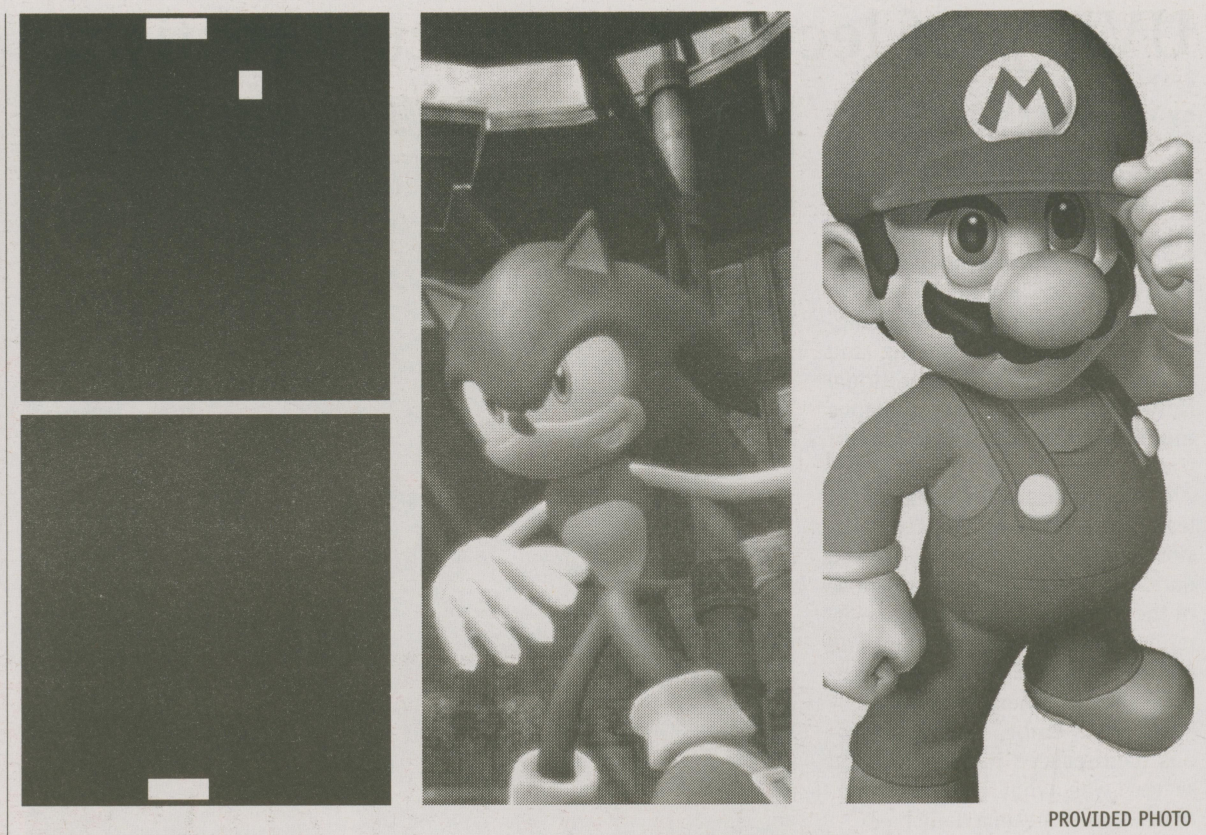
The band has opened for Britt Black, Danko Jones, Andrew W.K. and Treble Charger. They have performed during Canadian Music Week in Toronto, the Winnipeg Fringe Festival and the Minnedosa Classic Rock Festival. They've also been featured at the Pan-Am Games, and were a finalist in the national Snow Jam and Supernova contests.

Therapy, b.u.m.p.'s 2003 album, is available in select stores. Dengl says that the song "'Little Voices" is about soul searching: "Everyone—friends, family, and co-workers—has an idea of what you should be doing, and where you should be going. The song is about the little voices in your head, voices telling you what direction your life should be going in. But sometimes no matter how much you think things out, you don't end up with what you had planned."

Dengl says the catchy "575" refers to "how much things had cost a few years ago, and how quickly prices have inflated. The idea was sparked from a day where everywhere I went, I was being charged $5.75: 2 MacDonald's meals [cost] $5.75, heading down Highway 5 to Junction 75."

Asked which are her favourite songs, Dengl says, "That all depends on the type of day or week I am having. I tend to prefer new material, as I haven't heard it as often. If asked today, I'd say 'Las Senzah,' a love song with a Latin dance feel—it brings a smile to my face."

Dengl says that each performance "has a unique quality. But the closest I've felt to being a rock star was playing at the Minnedosa Rock Festival in 2004. Hundreds of people surrounded the stage, at first not knowing who we were—but they ended up rocking out with us. I felt utter satisfaction—sharing my thoughts and being heard."



PROVIDED PHOTO

Back to the beginning: A history of the video game

Video games have come a long way since the days of Pong

by Paul Alviz

WATERLOO (CUP) — Beep, boop. Beep-boop.

These are the sounds my friend Jesse and I heard after hooking up his Atari 2600, the first-ever home video game console to feature the luxury of removable cartridges, not to mention fancy wood panelling.

The game was Pong, the one-ball wonder. After a few minor soldering adjustments, since it was physically impossible to hook the unit up to a modern TV set, we were ready to jump back decades into a realm of gaming that was rumoured to destroy the minds and eyesight of youth.

When the game began, we chuckled at the bulky mechanical controllers and scoffed at the game select switch, which allowed us to choose one of more than 30 games on the cartridge—all of which included a ball and paddle of some sort.

Two minutes into the game of virtual tennis, my mind was focused on one thing: keeping that friggin' ball out of my end of the screen and shooting it into the other side.

Somehow I had completely forgotten just how terrible the graphics were and was actually enjoying the game, bent on declaring myself the more skilled player. This must have been the feeling that ran through millions of gamers when they first laid hands on Pong in the early '70s.

Businesses and software developers were quick to catch the wave, releasing countless games made with poor quality and craftsmanship, leading to an eventual video game crash.

However, in 1984, a quiet Japanese company released a home entertainment unit known as the Famicom, selling over half a million units in its first year.

The company was Nintendo, and in 1985, after a troubling dispute that ended a partnership with Atari, Nintendo took on the North American market all on its own, giving its console a new look and name, the Nintendo Entertainment System (NES).

Can you say *Duckhunt*? *Zelda*? *Super Mario Bros*? Nintendo ensured no second-rate games would ever be produced by ensuring that every one had an official seal of approval before it was allowed on shelves.

For a while this worked, and with no real competition Nintendo dominated the North American video gaming market.

Enter Sega. Boasting a 16-bit processor, double that of the NES's 8-bit, and catchy marketing slogans, such as "Sega does things that Nintendon't." Sega's blue hedgehog was suddenly running laps around the mushroom-munching, turtle-jumping mascot of the NES.

Other consoles receiving minor success in an attempt to dethrone Nintendo were the Matellivision and the more popular TurboGrafx 16, which relied on its more advanced processor and young adult niche market for commercial success.

With technology becoming outdated, and competition arising from every avenue, Nintendo ventured forth into the 16-bit world, introducing the Super Nintendo in 1994. *Super Mario World* became one of the bestselling game titles ever at the time.

After a deal to develop a CD-ROM attachment for the Super Nintendo with Sony went sour, the technology was taken on a separate path, becoming the 32-bit Sony PlayStation. Slowly but surely, Sony took a fair share of video game profits out of the hands of Nintendo.

Over the past 10 years, Sony has secured a firm grasp as the leader in game development and innovation, with the Microsoft Xbox coming a close second, Nintendo a far third, while Sega has been completely wiped off the console market.

From Pong to *Mario*, *Mortal Kombat* to *Grand Theft Auto 3*, games have gone from neat, to fun, to cool, to intense, then crazy and morally suspect.

With the introduction of yet another new *Mario*—and a new Nintendo system, Wii—on the horizon, it could be the beginning of a new era for the highly skilled plumber.

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UVic prof lectures at Dracula Festival

by Vicky Chang

ALLISON LINDSAY PHOTO

Actor Tony Ruffalo poses in a traditional Dracula costume.

Men and women dressed in traditional Romanian costumes, dancers, singers and families gathered for Victoria's 2nd annual Dracula Festival at the Da Vinci Centre recently. There was chanting, singing, music, lots of dancing and an endless supply of traditional Romanian food. As one audience member described, it was "a giant party."

While the title of the event might lead one to think of haunted mansions, blood-sucking fiends and dark, stormy nights, the purpose of the festival was to introduce attendees to the many traditions and cultural customs found in Romanian society. There was a display of artwork, embroidery and various hand-carved items. The food served was what typical Romanians would eat on a daily basis.

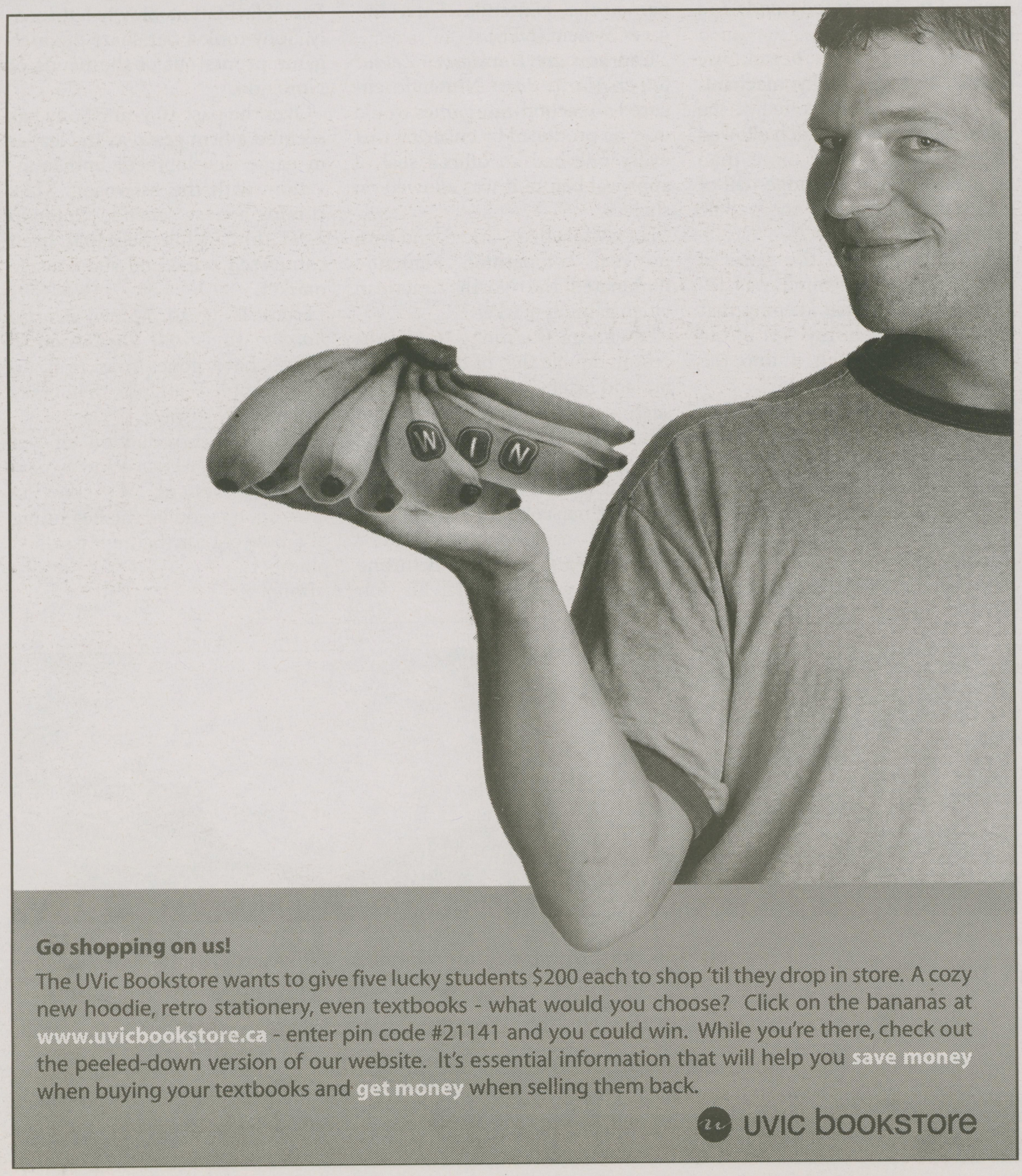
Dancing was one of the main features of the festival, with many people joining in. Traditional Romanian dancing was created in an era where musical instruments were in short supply. Thus, vocals, from chanting to loud shrieking noises, were used to attract attention and entertain the crowd.

Actor Tony Ruffalo dressed up in a conventional Dracula costume for picture ops, to entertain and tell the story of Dracula.

A more knowledgeable man on the topic of Dracula (and Vlad the Impaler, the man upon whom Dracula is based) was also in attendance. UVic professor Peter Golz, who teaches a course on the cultural history of vampires in literature and film, gave a short lecture at the festival about the historic Dracula versus the fictional Dracula. According to Golz, Bram Stoker "established the literary vampire and molded cinematic adaptation." But, Golz said, Stoker knew very little about Vlad the Impaler. Golz believes vampires are the most fascinating myth of the 20th century.

"Vampires have been so successful because there is a vampire for everybody," he says. "From Béla Lugosi's eroticized gentleman seducer to Brad Pitt's suffering Louis to the recent slayers Buffy and Blade, every generation has their own vampires." Although his lecture was condensed into a short period of time at the festival, his main point was to distinguish between Dracula and Vlad the Impaler (a.k.a. Vlad Dracula).

Dracula actually came from a family of royalty and honour. His father was admitted into the Order of the Dragon, which is a secret fraternal order of knights, for his bravery in fighting the Turks. Dracula did many things for his people and is best known for his success in standing up to the encroaching Ottoman Empire.



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RYAN CHO PHOTO

Ryan Cho with Muki Agadi, his Botswana internship partner.

UVic student attends world AIDS conference

by Vanessa Lundgren

With the 16th International AIDS Conference finished in Toronto, UVic student Ryan Cho is settling back home after speaking at the conference's Youth Pavilion.

The AIDS conference, which ran Aug. 13 to 18, is the world's largest event held on the issue. It is hosted every two years in different cities and was started by the International AIDS Society, "a worldwide force of professionals," whose mission, according to their website, is "working together to prevent, control and treat HIV/AIDS."

The conference drew 26,000 participants from over 170 countries, among them people living with the disease, scientists, caregivers, policy makers and activists and included 10,000 youth.

"There was a massive effort to involve youth this time," said Cho.

"HIV/AIDS has always had its highest prevalence among youth," said Cho. "I think we're moving more toward involving those people. It's more a progression to address the issue and less the issue has changed."

Having participated in an HIV/AIDS internship in Botswana, along with 20 other Canadian students, through the World University Service of Canada (WUSC) organization, Cho was selected to participate in a panel presentation with youths from Burkina Faso, Botswana and Malawi.

Awareness, education and prevention were key topics in the discussion titled, "Youth Working Together Across Borders: Reflection and Action."

Cho's assignment in Botswana was to provide AIDS education using arts-based approaches. He was matched up with Muki Agadi, a Botswana local, and together, along with other WUSC interns, created "outreach performances" that were shown at high schools and middle schools.

Taboo subjects such as rape, HIV infection and the disempowerment of women were regular hot-button topics in their plays and the goal was "to have it presented in a way that is accessible, interesting and have it stimulate conversation," said Cho.

"As youth, we need to take responsibility for educating ourselves," he said.

"There is still so much misinformation out there, even in Canada, about what HIV is and how it's spread, and I think there is still a stigma attached to that."

The conference's panel discussion yielded interesting observations for Cho when it came to examining Canada's present-day situation with the destructive epidemic.

"There is a huge gap between knowledge and practice," said Cho. "We know a lot more about AIDS overseas than AIDS in Canada and I think that's where our gap is. There are issues with AIDS here."

UNAIDS, a United Nations group, reports that approximately 39 million people are infected with HIV/AIDS around the world. And, according to the World Bank youth website, an astounding 95 per cent of people infected live in developing countries. But, the disease is still present in Canada and is slowly on the rise among vulnerable groups of society, according to the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC).

PHAC reports that, last year, an estimated 58,000 Canadians were living with the disease, up from 50,000 in 2002.

To deter infection, Cho recommends HIV-specific and youth-led training programs be established in high schools.

"I think that peer education programs are a good place to start," he said. "More than half of the people infected with HIV are young people between 16 and 25," said Cho.

Involving youth in the process of education and prevention, not having older people dictate what youth prevention should be, would encourage discussion and make the subject more accessible to young people, said Cho.

A collective conclusion reached by Cho and his peers at the conference was one of solidarity.

"We all have to work together and share ideas if we're going to address this pandemic," said Cho. "It's not enclosed by borders and it doesn't discriminate."

STUDENT RESTAURANT GUIDE

Eat cheap, not crap

A guide to some of the best restaurants for eating on a budget in Victoria

by Carley Fortune

Victoria is packed with great restaurants; the only problem is that because the downtown is also packed with tourists, prices tend to be higher than normal. But there are still some great deals to be found around the city without sacrificing quality. Here's a look at seven of the best spots to go on a student budget.

1. Café Madrid

This Spanish restaurant is tucked on quiet Broughton Street and offers the best deal on good food downtown. Serving patrons himself, owner Javier Alvarez keeps the menu small and uses simple ingredients. Paella, tapas, paninis, salads and a daily soup make up the menu. The paella ($7.75), a full plate loaded with seafood, beans, corn and tomatoes, is the most expensive thing on the menu. The paninis (try the tuna, egg, cheese and anchovy or the Spanish omelette and roasted pepper) are a steal at $4.95 and so are the salads at $3.95. 762 Broughton Street. 386-1176.

2. Ali Baba Pizza

It's not exactly where you'd go for a fancy meal out, but this is pretty tasty pizza. You can't get much better than a gourmet slice (and by slice, they mean a quarter of a pizza) for $4. Plus it's one of the few restaurants you can grab a post-midnight, alcohol-induced bite downtown on the weekend. 775 Fort Street. 385-6666.

3. Delicado's

Nick Drake and The Shins playing in the background of Delicado's is a nice touch, but even if this place was blasting achy breaky Billy Ray Cyrus and Céline Dion it would still be well worth visiting. Shelves are filled with cans of curries, chipotle peppers and tomatoes, which staff grab every so often. These are the ingredients that make vegetarian-friendly Delicado's speciality rollups, made as spicy or as mild as you like, the best wraps. Ever. The falafel wrap ($7.50) on a curry tortilla with southwest-style rice, veggies and their awesome chipotle sauce is incredible. Only a prolific eater could finish the coyote combo ($10.95), complete with a burrito, enchilada and a choice of salad, in one sitting. 799 Fort Street. 381-3354.

4. Ferris' Oyster Bar & Grill

This dark and intimate Yates Street restaurant has one of the most diverse and consistent menus in the city. The prices range widely enough for any budget. Their burgers ($8 to $10) include an oyster burger, veggie nut burger and lamb burger, and are served with fries, salad or oyster soup. They are also a good way to save money, but still enjoy the atmosphere. The bouillabaisse is a garlicky combo of shellfish, crab, salmon and prawns and is well priced at $16. Service is often rushed, but attentive. 536 Yates Street. 360-1824.

5. Lady Marmalade

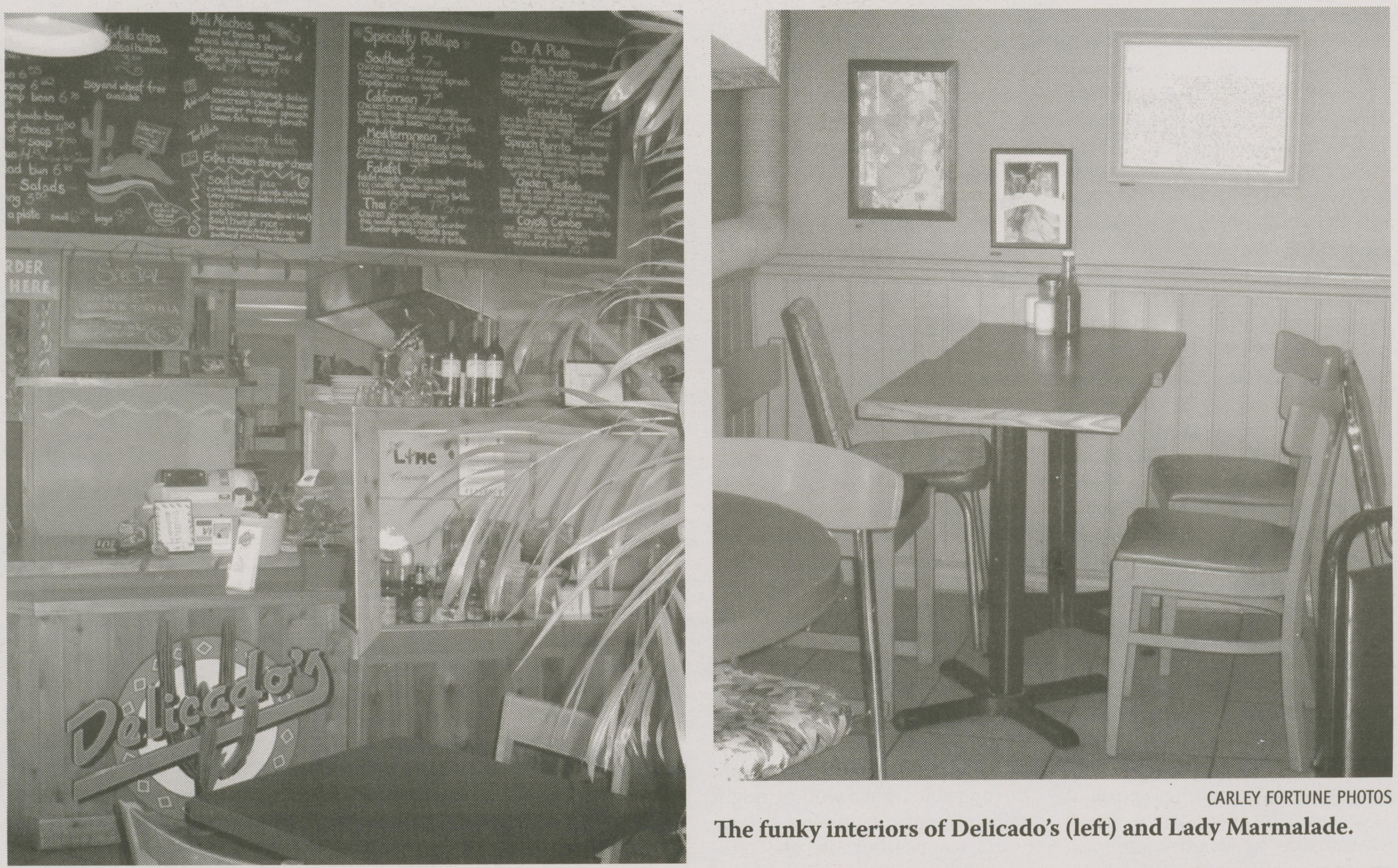
Fluorescent green sneakers, strange art and paintings by local artist Caleb Spelling line the pea-green walls of one of the most interesting spaces in Victoria, Lady Marmalade. Young, hip diners munch on chef Carla Cherry's all-day breakfast or diverse lunch options. Try the good morning poutine ($5.95), hash browns and aged white cheddar topped with hollandaise or tomato-orange cream. The sandwiches, from the best club ($9.95) in town to the Mexican-inspired tortita-gordita ($9.95), are served with either a soya-ginger dressed green salad or a delicious homemade potato salad. The inside scoop: The Lady M. crew are looking into expanding their place, getting a liquor licence and opening late. It'd be a much-needed relaxed place to hangout, have a bite and avoid listening to the too-loud cover bands that dominate downtown nightlife. 608 Government Street (under the scaffolding). 381-2872.

6. Thai Bistro

While there are many small restaurants serving Thai food in downtown Victoria, they are often overpriced and unforgettable. But this particular small Thai restaurant is worth noting. Thai Bistro not only offers the best prices on Thai cuisine in the city, the portions are large and the food is good. While the kitchen does offer a wide range of items on both their lunch and dinner menus, the cheap lunch special is the reason to visit. At $7.49 the special includes two spring rolls, tofu vegetable soup, jasmine rice and a choice of either pad Thai, chicken or vegetarian red or green curry, or spicy chicken with basil leaves. 615 Johnson Street. 380-7878.

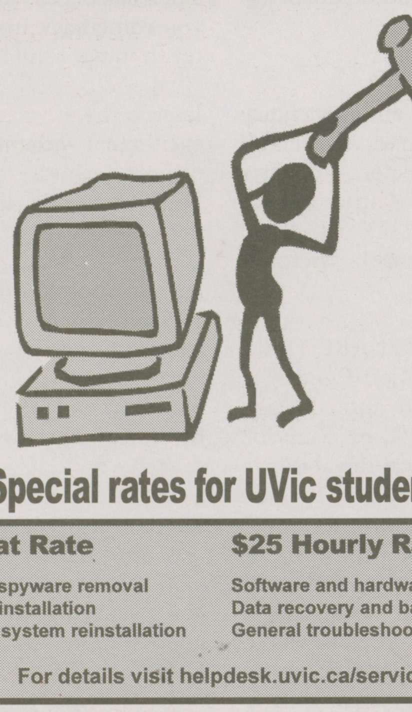
7. Sabri Indian Cuisine

There's a good chance that you've only heard of this restaurant through a local friend who really knows the city and its hidden treasures. Warm naan, dhal, butter chicken and several other spicy Indian dishes make up the small dinner buffet at Sabri restaurant. The hot dining room in a rundown strip mall is tightly packed with families looking for an affordable night out. At $8.95 per person, an all-you-can-eat buffet at Sabri is not only affordable, it's also really tasty and worth the drive out there. 3480 Tillicum Road. 388-4655.



CARLEY FORTUNE PHOTOS

The funky interiors of Delicado's (left) and Lady Marmalade.



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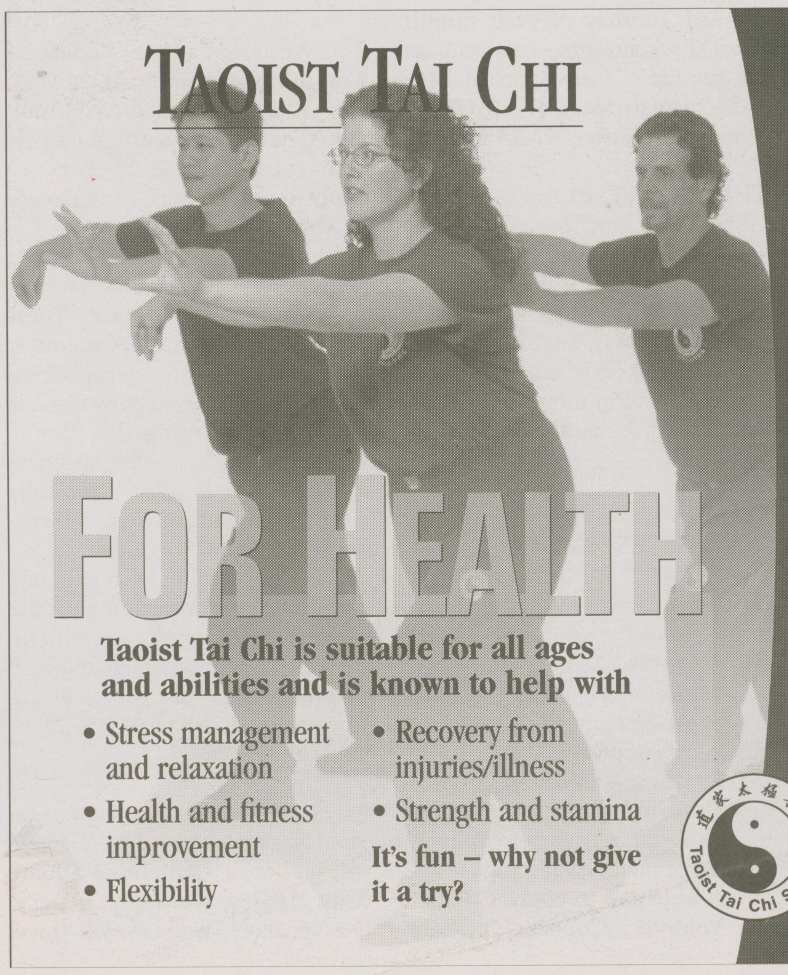

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RESEARCH ROUNDUP

Swimmers drink more than just pool water

Rugby injuries more frequent in summer; experienced BASE jumpers feel more pain

by David Karp

There are a surprising number of academic journals that deal with sports from a variety of disciplines: psychology, economics, law, marketing, sociology, physiotherapy and sports medicine. Here's a look at what some of the latest studies have found.

Drinking and diving

Sixty-five per cent of college divers and swimmers are high-risk drinkers, according to a June study in the *Journal of Applied Sports Psychology*. Researchers studied 340 competitive college athletes in six sports, finding swimmers and divers are the heaviest drinkers. Aquatic athletes down more than seven drinks per week on average, and have 4.72 "heavy drinking episodes" each month. Runners are the designated drivers in the world of college athletics—they average 2.8 drinks per week. The researchers suggested that "more than athletes from other sports, it is common for men's and women's swim teams to socialize and 'party' together"—leading to lots of drinking.

Don't play rugby in the summer

Rugby players get injured more often during the summer than during the winter, says a new study released in the *Clinical Journal of Sport Medicine* in July. But winter's not particularly safe either; serious injuries are just as likely to occur in summer as in winter. The study followed the Rugby Football League over six seasons, where there were 8.95 injuries per game. Researchers were unsure why more injuries occurred in summer, but suggested it could be because of weather, the condition of the playing field or changes to the way the game is played.

Fantasy sports are very manly

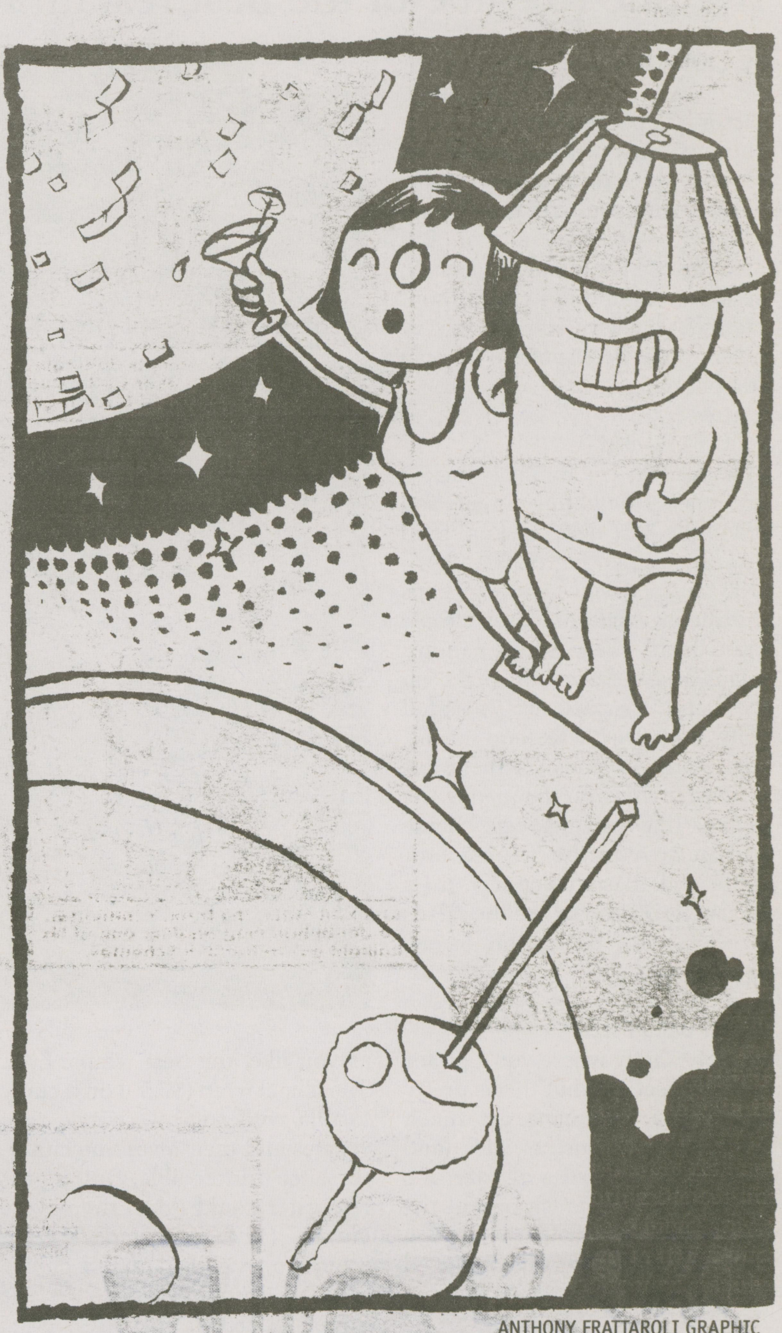
Two researchers at the University of Wisconsin discovered that fantasy sport leagues reinforce masculine values. Fantasy sport leagues are online competitions where people pick teams of professional athletes, gaining points when the athletes score goals and hit home runs in real life. The August study in the *Journal of Sport and Social Issues* found that masculine values are embedded in fantasy leagues. "Fantasy sport leagues act as an 'Old Boy's Club' that allows men to communally meet, bond and redefine what it is to be masculine," said the report. It argued women might be deterred from joining fantasy sports leagues because the typical male competitor believes in his own superiority "and the vying for masculine dominance ... may be so off-putting to many women."

Hold your horseshoes

A new study found that superstitious basketball players miss more foul shots when they break their habit. Researchers in England followed 22 recreational basketball players, with habits ranging from wearing socks inside out to kissing tape on their finger before taking free throws. The free throw percentage of superstitious players decreased by 15 per cent when they abandoned their routine. "Removal of [superstitious behaviour] is likely to increase feelings of stress and anxiety with a concomitant feeling of loss and control," said the study, published in the June edition of the *Journal of Applied Sports Psychology*.

I wish you would step back from that ledge my friend

A study of 134 BASE jumpers published in the September *Journal of Sport Behavior* reveals experienced BASE jumpers deal with pain differently than those new to the sport. BASE is an acronym for the objects participants jump from—buildings, antennas, spans (i.e. bridges), and earth (i.e. cliffs). BASE jumping is considered to be one of the most dangerous sports in existence, and while athletes do have a parachute, most jump at heights of around 500 feet, giving them little room to deploy it. Experienced BASE jumpers were found to have a low pain threshold and are more likely to abandon a jump than inexperienced jumpers. "This may be the result of the realization of the extreme danger of the sport among experienced jumpers and naivety on behalf of the inexperienced jumpers," said the report.



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ROOF & GUTTER INSPECTION, REPAIR, REROOFING, DEMOSSING AND POWERWASHING. Call: 380-5685.

SERVICES

Two wrongs don't make a write! Get an experienced editor to accept your pain at pto_edit@yahoo.ca www.pto-editing.com 250-381-8650.

FREE SPANISH LESSONS!! Intermediate - Advanced - Starts Thurs, Sept. 14, 7-9 p.m. Beginners - Starts Wed., Sept. 13, 7-9 p.m. Until early to mid-December. Anglican Church, 310 Henry St., 384-8773.

ON CAMPUS

BUDDHIST MEDITATION
UVic Interfaith Chapel, Tuesdays 6:45-8 p.m. 642-7936
www.zenwest.ca

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Falun Dafa (meditation) at Fernwood Community Centre, 1240 Gladstone, **Wednesdays,** 5-7 p.m. Also, **Saturdays and Sundays,** 10-noon, across from Beacon Hill petting zoo - all winter. Free, everyone welcome. 386-8805, faluninfo.net

The Victoria Folk Music Society offers live music every **Sunday night at 7:30 p.m., 1110 Hillside.** Info: www.pacificcoast.net/~vfms

Sanctuary Artists in Support of Muir Creek. Aug. 14 to Sept. 3 An art show at Victoria Arts Connection, #110-2750 Quadra St., near Hillside.

The Victoria EVENING Newcomers Club FOR WOMEN meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at local restaurants - reservations are required. Call Peggy at 744-1823 or Valerie at 477-8100 for more information.. PLEASE

THE NATIVE PLANT STUDY GROUP - Sept. Meeting Guest speaker Adam Weir of Paradise Landscapes will speak on building living roofing systems using native plants. Thursday, Sept 21, 2006
at 7 p.m., UVic, MacLaurin Bldg, Rm D-116. Non member drop-in fee: $2. For more info contact 595-5820.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Interested in volunteering in radio? Behind the scenes or on-air? CFUV 101.9 FM is UVic's campus/community radio station broadcasting from the campus at 2290 watts of power. We are looking for those interested in producing or helping out in regards to public affairs, native student, women or queer issues, but everyone is welcome to apply. Contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Kate Hollefreund at vol4cfuv@uvic.ca or drop by the station in the SUB, RMB006, Monday to Friday 10-5 p.m.

UVIC PRIDE VOLUNTEERS!
Meet fun folk, help out in the community, compare fashionable frippery. Staff the office, mosey to events, or just join the list serve. uvicpride@uvss.uvic.ca

The Western Canada Wilderness Committee is now hiring canvassers. If you are a dedicated individual seeking meaningful work, contact us. Call 388-9292 or apply in person at 651 Johnson St between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m.

September is Muscular Dystrophy Awareness Month! There are 179 people in the Vancouver Island region who are registered with Muscular Dystrophy Canada (MDC). By printing the PSA in your publication, you are supporting the people in your community who have neuromuscular disorders. Your local Vancouver Island MDC Chapter will be organizing community fundraisers to raise money for research, equipment, and services for people living with neuromuscular disorders. Please support them.e1.866.MUSCLE.8 www.muscle.ca

AIDS Walk 2006 will happen on Sunday, September 26. Walkers will gather at Centennial Square (City Hall) at 10:30 am. After a few speakers, walkers will travel along Government St. to the BC Legislature. We expect to be finished around noon. If you are interested in volunteering or if you have any questions, please contact Leslie at AIDS Vancouver Island, or 384-2366.

Royal BC Museum Do you have Want a fun and meaningful volunteer opportunity? THE COMMUNITY ACTION ON AIDS/VIDEA PUBLIC ART INSTALLATION is looking for help decorating flags and installing the project in August. For more information contact Chloe at craxlen@uvic.ca

MENTORS NEEDED
Be a mentor to an elementary student. Visit 1 hr/wk at a school and play games, sports, do arts and crafts, read and other fun activities. Call 475-1117 ext. 42 or e-mail volunteer@bbbsvictoria.com

The BC SPCA Wild ARC (Wild Animal Rehabilitation Centre) is hosting its second annual Paws for a Cause. Walk or Run for Wildlife on Sept. 9 at Royal Roads University. The day will include games, prizes, music and food. There will be a 5K Trail Run, 5K Rover's Run (for you and your dog), and a 3K Fun Walk. This is the only race event for your whole family - 2- and 4-legged. For more information go to www.wildarc.com/walk or call (250) 478-WILD (478-9453).

Victoria's Food Not Bombs is searching for volunteers to help prepare, cook and clean up on Sundays. Serve your community and eat good food. 383-5144 extension 1940.

HEY YOU!

Frank, where's my bike bitch! I said an hour—Not a effin' week.

Steven, despite the fact that when you say you'll be over at my house in 10 minutes and it takes you two hours, and even though your feet smell like deceased octopus when you come back from cross-country training, I still love you.

Jessica, thank you for sharing the excitement with me as we embark on our new adventures this year. Your friendship means a lot to me.

If your doorstop dogs don't stop barking—I'll punch them in the snout.

Anthony, you left your weiner in my bun and I relished it. Daryll.

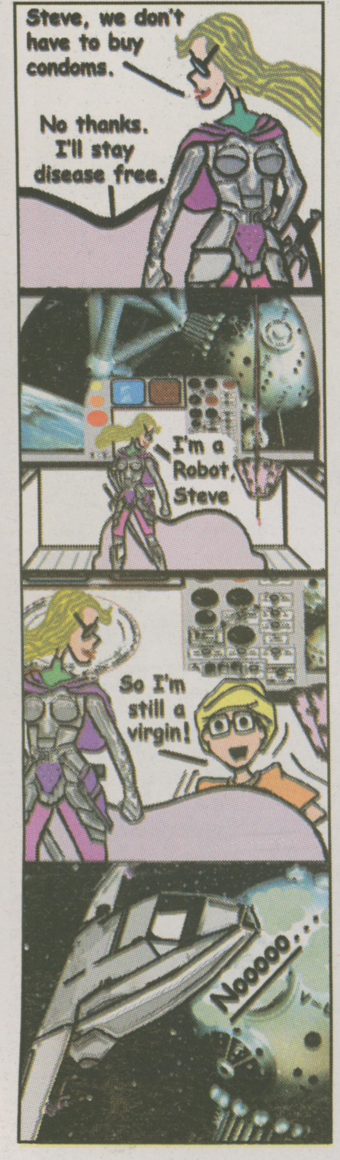
Sweet Zombie Jesus! Get your hands off my wine.

Coffee at 9 p.m. tastes as good as coffee at 3 a.m. Maybe it'll taste as good at 6pm. This is some Phillip K. Dick stuff right here.

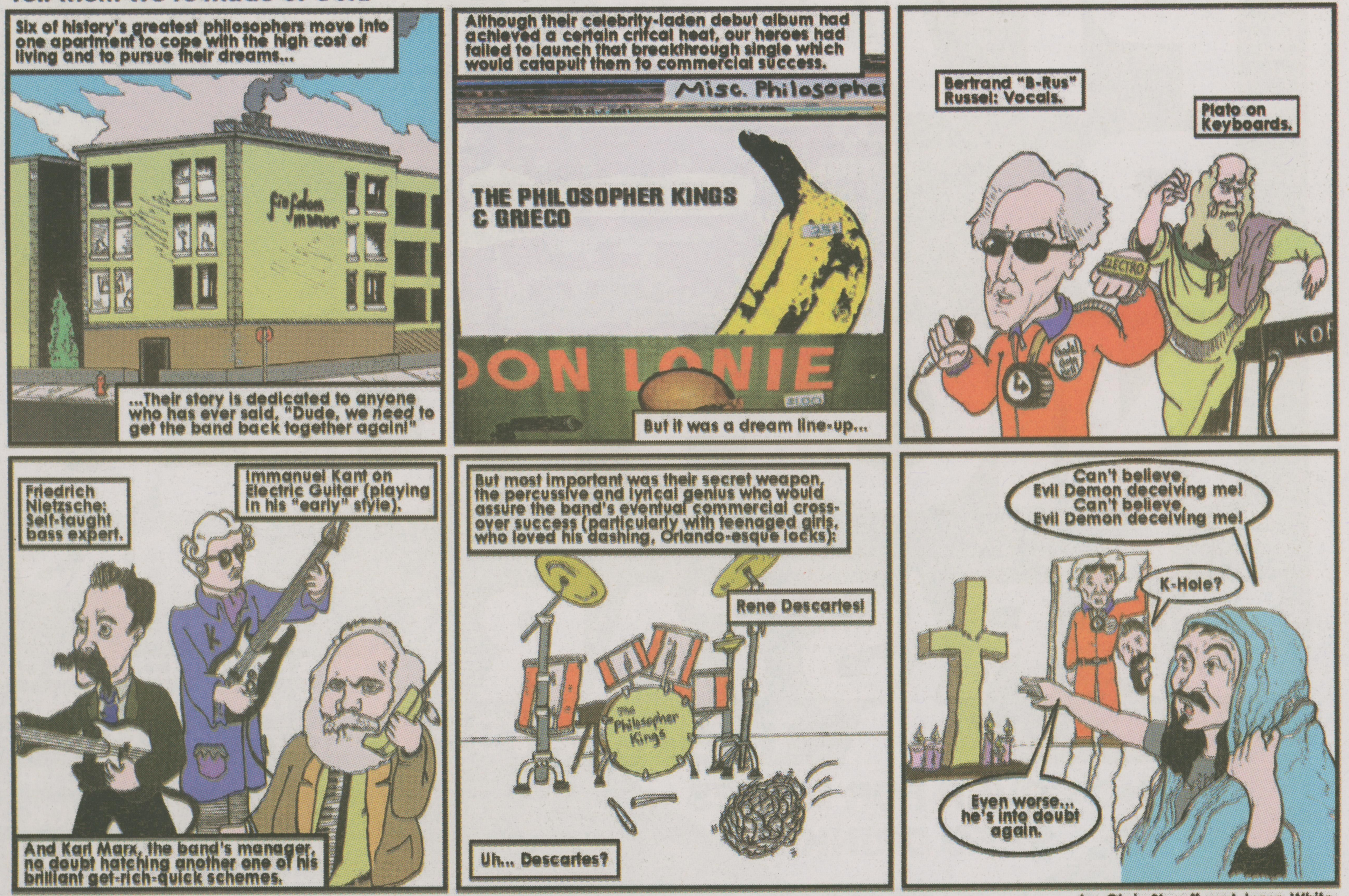
Are comics funny if you don't know the person writing them?

LADY AND STEVE

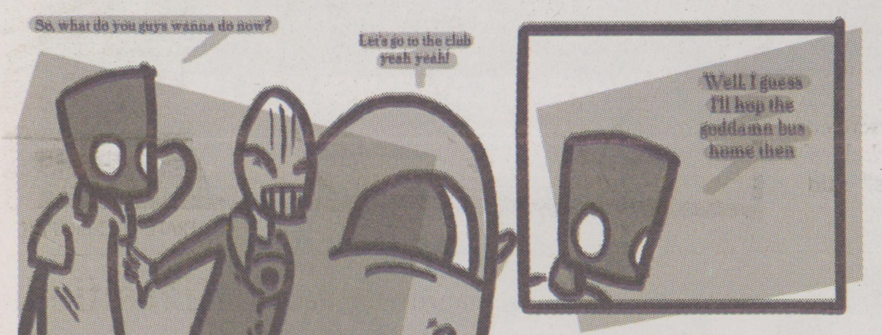
by Norman Ed Baskerville


Steve, we don't have to buy condoms.
No thanks. I'll stay disease free.
I'm a Robot, Steve
So I'm still a virgin!
Nooooo...

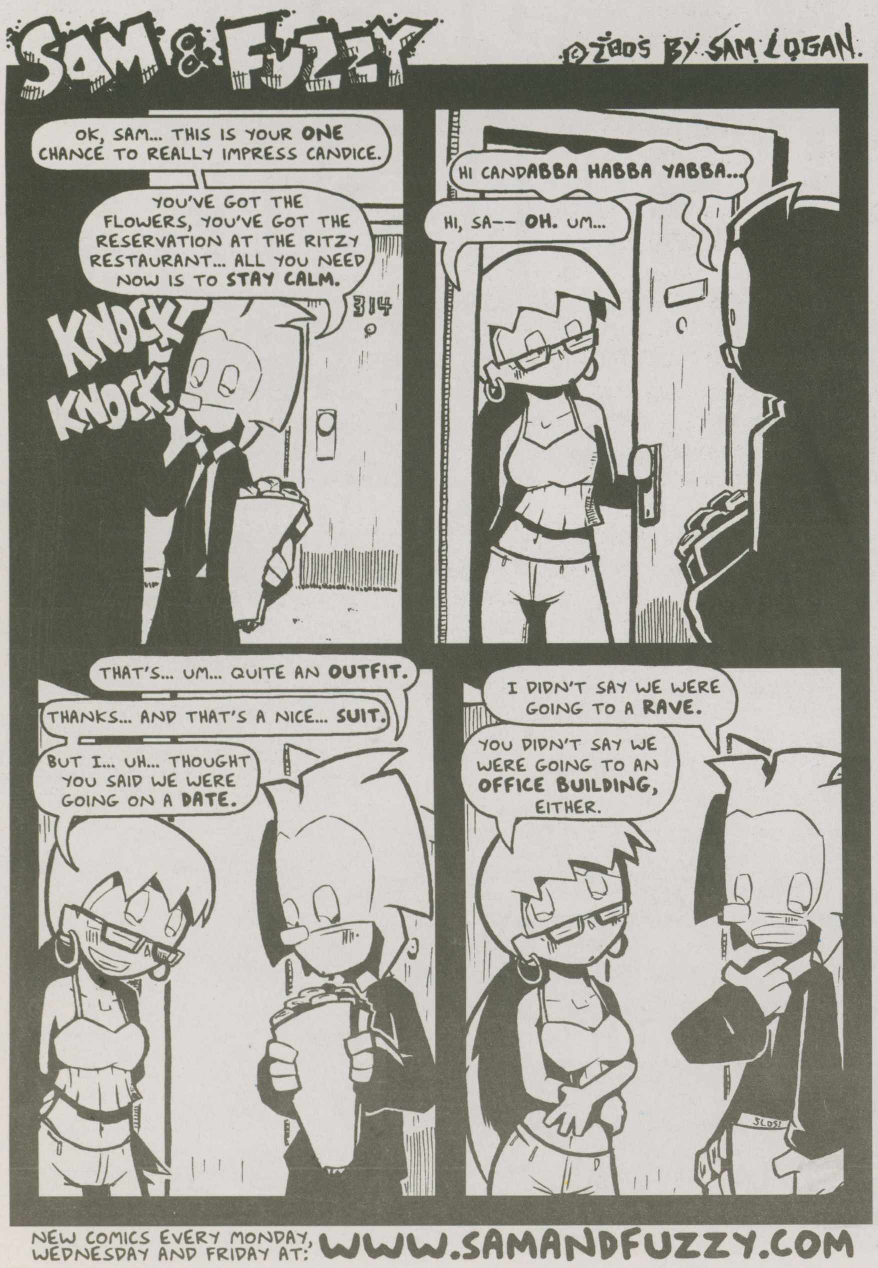
Tell Them We're Made of Gold


Six of history's greatest philosophers move into one apartment to cope with the high cost of living and to pursue their dreams...
...Their story is dedicated to anyone who has ever said, "Dude, we *need* to get the band back together again!"
Although their celebrity-laden debut album had achieved a certain critical heat, our heroes had failed to launch that breakthrough single which would catapult them to commercial success.
Misc. Philosopher
THE PHILOSOPHER KINGS & GRIECO
DON LONIE
But it was a dream line-up...
Bertrand "B-Rus" Russel: Vocals.
Plato on Keyboards.
ELECTRO
Friedrich Nietzsche: Self-taught bass expert.
Immanuel Kant on Electric Guitar (playing in his "early" style).
And Karl Marx, the band's manager, no doubt hatching another one of his brilliant get-rich-quick schemes.
But most important was their secret weapon, the percussive and lyrical genius who would assure the band's eventual commercial cross-over success (particularly with teenaged girls, who loved his dashing, Orlando-esque locks):
Rene Descartes!
The Philosopher Kings
Uh... Descartes?
Can't believe, Evil Demon deceiving me! Can't believe, Evil Demon deceiving me!
K-Hole?
Even worse... he's into doubt again.

by Chris Sheaff and Jesse White

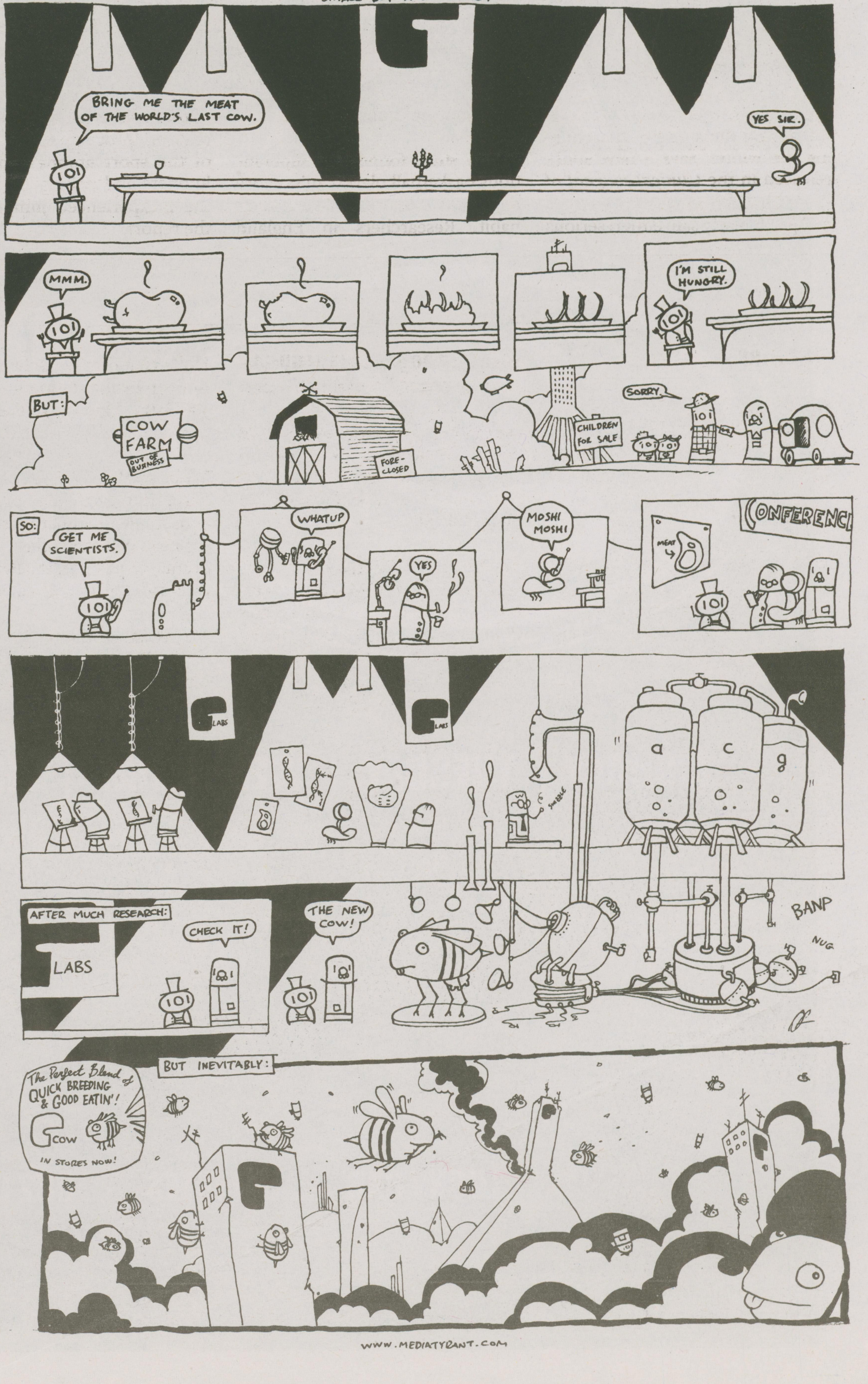

So, what do you guys wanna do now?
Let's go to the club yeah yeah!
Well, I guess I'll hop the goddamn bus home then

the further adventures of
the perpetually underage robot
by TK Longmire

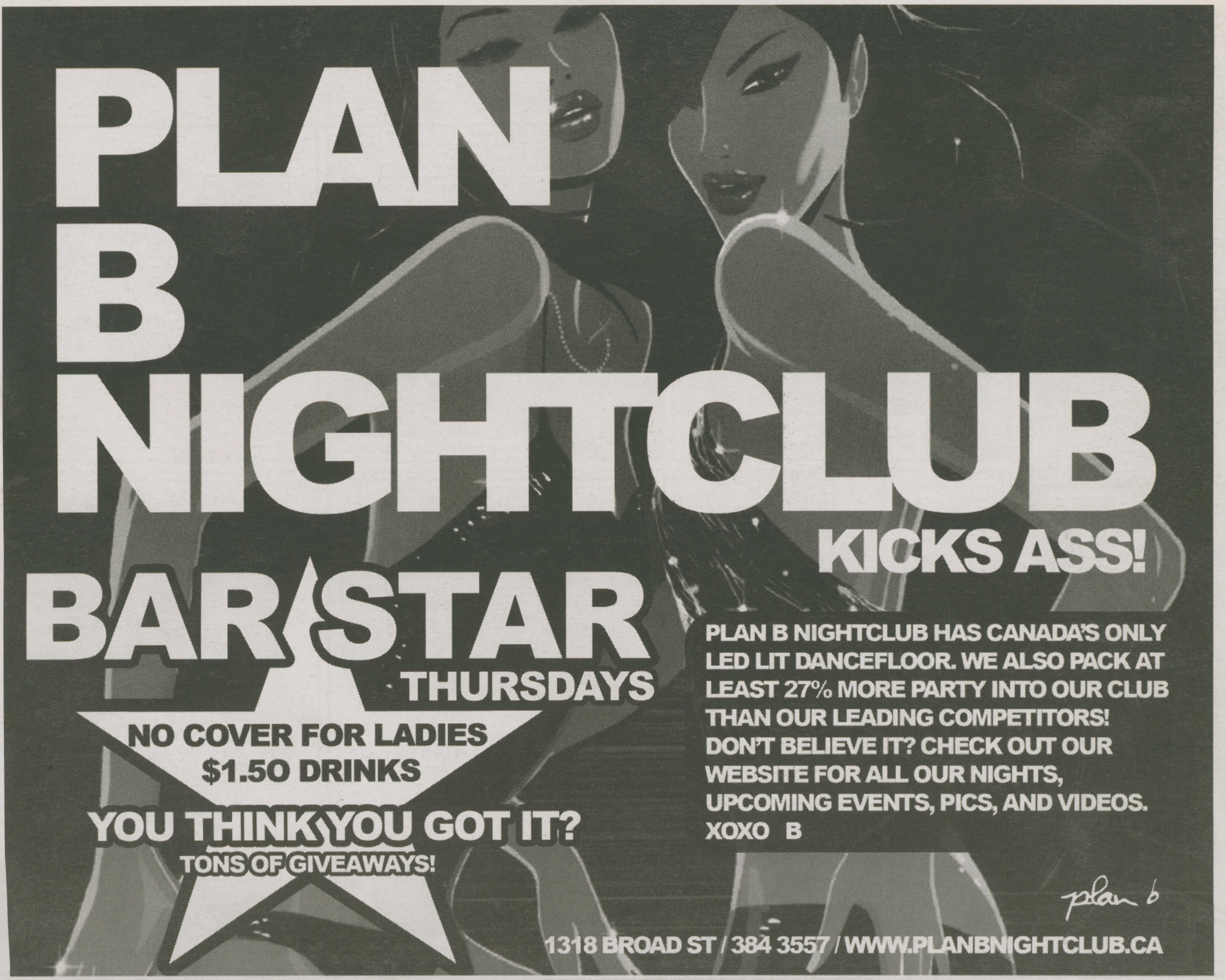

SAM & FUZZY
©2005 BY SAM LOGAN.
OK, SAM... THIS IS YOUR ONE CHANCE TO REALLY IMPRESS CANDICE.
YOU'VE GOT THE FLOWERS, YOU'VE GOT THE RESERVATION AT THE RITZY RESTAURANT... ALL YOU NEED NOW IS TO STAY CALM.
314
KNOCK KNOCK!
HI CANDABBA HABBA YABBA...
HI, SA-- OH. UM...
THAT'S... UM... QUITE AN OUTFIT.
THANKS... AND THAT'S A NICE... SUIT.
BUT I... UH... THOUGHT YOU SAID WE WERE GOING ON A DATE.
I DIDN'T SAY WE WERE GOING TO A RAVE.
YOU DIDN'T SAY WE WERE GOING TO AN OFFICE BUILDING, EITHER.

NEW COMICS EVERY MONDAY, WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY AT: WWW.SAMANDFUZZY.COM

SMALL BOY AND MONKEY


BRING ME THE MEAT OF THE WORLD'S LAST COW.
YES SIR.
101
MMM.
I'M STILL HUNGRY.
BUT:
COW FARM
OUT OF BUSINESS
FORE-CLOSED
CHILDREN FOR SALE
SORRY.
SO:
GET ME SCIENTISTS.
WHATUP
YES
MOSHI MOSHI
MEAT
CONFERENCE
LABS
a
c
g
AFTER MUCH RESEARCH:
LABS
CHECK IT!
THE NEW COW!
BANP
NUG
BUT INEVITABLY:
The Perfect Blend of QUICK BREEDING & GOOD EATIN'!
COW
IN STORES NOW!

WWW.MEDIATYRANT.COM



PLAN
B
NIGHTCLUB
KICKS ASS!

BAR STAR
THURSDAYS
NO COVER FOR LADIES
$1.50 DRINKS
YOU THINK YOU GOT IT?
TONS OF GIVEAWAYS!

PLAN B NIGHTCLUB HAS CANADA'S ONLY LED LIT DANCEFLOOR. WE ALSO PACK AT LEAST 27% MORE PARTY INTO OUR CLUB THAN OUR LEADING COMPETITORS! DON'T BELIEVE IT? CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE FOR ALL OUR NIGHTS, UPCOMING EVENTS, PICS, AND VIDEOS.
XOXO B

plan b

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WE F♥CKING
LOVE MUSIC!

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
90'S NIGHT	LIVE	MOD CLUB	HANG THE DJ	LIVE	SOLID

LUCKY BAR - 517 YATES - 382 LUCK - WWW.LUCKYBAR.CA